

CITY OF MANCHESTER.—EXHIBITION OF ART TREASURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, IN MANCHESTER, IN 1857.—At a MEETING of Gentlemen being Subscribers to the Guarantee Fund, held this 20th day of May, 1856, in the Town Hall, Manchester.

HIS WORSHIP the MAYOR in the Chair.
Mem: A Report embodying the information which had been obtained since the preliminary Meeting held on the 28th day of March last, as to the probable expense of erecting a building for the proposed Exhibition, and also stating the result of an interview which had been granted by His Royal Highness the Prince Albert at Buckingham Palace on the 7th day of May instant, having been submitted.

It was moved by Thomas Bailey, Esq.; seconded by Henry Houldsworth, Esq., and resolved—
 That this meeting of Subscribers to the Guarantee Fund, being satisfied by the statement now submitted, of the practicability of securing an Exhibition of Art Treasures in Manchester, and Her Most Gracious Majesty and His Royal Highness Prince Albert having been pleased to extend to such Exhibition their royal patronage and support, hereby determined that an Exhibition, to be entitled "The Exhibition of Art Treasures of the United Kingdom," shall be held in Manchester in 1857.

The following List of Subscribers to the Guarantee Fund was submitted.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Ellesmere, K.G., Lord E.	1000
Lieutenant of the county	1000
James Watts, Esq., High Sheriff of the County	1000
Sir E. Knatchbull, Esq., Mayor of Manchester	1000
Robert Ashton, Esq.	1000
Thomas Ashton, Esq.	1000
Robert Barbour, Esq.	1000
Richard W. Barton, Esq.	1000
Thomas Bailey, Esq.	1000
Samuel Brooks, Esq.	1000
Edmund Buckley, Esq.	1000
Joseph Bull, Esq.	1000
John Cheetham, Esq., M.P.	1000
Thomas Critchley, Esq.	1000
James Dugdale, Esq.	1000
William Entwistle, Esq.	1000
Robert Gardner, Esq.	1000
The Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M.P.	1000
J. C. Harter, Esq.	1000
Sir B. Heywood, Bart.	1000
Oliver Heywood, Esq.	1000
Henry Houldsworth, Esq.	1000
James Kerfoot, Esq., M.P.	1000
E. R. Langworthy, Esq.	1000
Edward Lloyd, Jun., Esq.	1000
Ivic Mackie, Esq.	1000
Samuel Meadell, Esq.	1000
Benjamin Nichol, Esq.	1000
Sir John Potter, Esq.	1000
Edward Tootal, Esq.	1000
J. P. Brown Westhead, Esq.	1000
Joseph Whitworth, Esq.	1000
Thomas Ashton, Esq., M.D.	500
John Hanmerman, Esq.	500
T. B. Bateman, Esq.	500
Richard Birley, Esq.	500
William Bradshaw, Esq.	500
Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P.	500
Henry Bury, Esq.	500
John Butterworth, Esq.	500
W. R. Callender, Esq.	500
James Carlton, Esq.	500
John Carter, Esq.	500
James Chadwick, Esq.	500
George C. Dewhurst, Esq.	500
Thomas Fairbairn, Esq.	500
William Fairbairn, Esq.	500
William A. Fairbairn, Esq.	500
Edmund Grundy, Esq.	500
William Harter, Esq.	500
James Hutton, Esq.	500
Stephen Heelis, Esq., Mayor of Salford	500
Joseph Heron, Esq.	500
James Hertz, Esq.	500
James Heywood, Esq., M.P.	500
John Huxine, Esq.	500
Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P.	500
James Houldsworth, Esq.	500
W. C. Jones, Esq.	500
J. L. Kennedy, Esq.	500
Bernhard Liebert, Esq.	500
Philip Lucas, Esq.	500
William Marshall, Esq.	500
S. A. Meyer, Esq.	500
James McConnel, Esq.	500
William McConnel, Esq.	500
John Moss, Esq.	500
John Mann, Esq.	500
R. B. Righty Murray, Esq.	500
James Murray, Esq.	500
William Neild, Esq.	500
Edmund Potter, Esq.	500
Thomas B. Potter, Esq.	500
James Rees, Esq.	500
Leopold Reus, Esq.	500
Ernest Reus, Esq.	500
Martin Schunck, Esq.	500
Samuel Schuster, Esq.	500
Adolph Schwaib, Esq.	500
John Silzer, Esq.	500
William Slater, Esq.	500
Charles Southey, Esq.	500
Sigmund Stern, Esq.	500
J. E. Taylor, Esq.	500
Charles Townend, Esq.	500
J. A. Turner, Esq.	500
W. B. Watkins, Esq.	500
Edward Westhead, Esq.	500
John Wood, Esq.	500
W. R. Wood, Esq.	500
Thomas Wrigley, Esq.	500

Moved by William Entwistle, Esq.; seconded by William Fairbairn, Esq., and resolved—
 That the subscribers to the Guarantee Fund form the General Council of the Exhibition; and that the Right Honourable the Earl of Ellesmere, K.G., Lord Lieutenant of the county, be requested to act as President, and His Worship the Mayor of Manchester as Chairman of such Council.

Moved by Stephen Heelis, Esq., Mayor of Salford; and seconded by J. C. Harter, Esq., and resolved—
 That the following noblemen, intimately connected with the county, be requested to give their support, and to appear as patrons of the Exhibition, viz.

- The Right Honourable the Earl of Ellesmere.
- The Right Honourable the Earl of Derby.
- The Right Honourable the Earl of Stamford and Warrington.
- The Right Honourable the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres.
- The Right Honourable the Earl of Sefton.
- The Right Honourable the Earl of Devon.
- The Right Honourable the Earl of Wiltshire.
- The Lord Bishop of Manchester.

And that the Executive Committee take steps to add to the list of

patrons the names of such other noblemen and gentlemen as are known as the possessors of meritorious works, and generally desirous of concourring in the promotion of the arts.

Moved by R. N. Phillips, Esq., High Sheriff of the county; seconded by Oliver Heywood, Esq., and resolved—

That, for the purpose of carrying out the foregoing resolutions, an Executive Committee be appointed, to consist of seven gentlemen, and that to such Committee be delegated full power to make all engagements, financial or otherwise, as to the objects of this meeting, and to secure the realization of the project on a scale commensurate with its intrinsic importance and the national resources in art, and in a manner worthy of the city by which it is undertaken, subject only to the approval of the General Council, of the site and plan of the intended building when such shall have been decided upon, and with the understanding that the final appropriation of the funds, and of any surplus funds which may be realised, will rest with such General Council.

That the following gentlemen constitute the Executive Committee, viz.:—The Mayor, the Chairman of the General Council, Messrs. Thomas Ashton, Esq., William Entwistle, Esq., Thomas Fairbairn, Esq., Joseph Heron, Esq., Edmund Potter, Esq.; and Sigmund J. Stern, Esq.

Moved by Thomas Ashton, Esq.; seconded by the Town Clerk, and resolved—

That the proceedings of this meeting be advertised in the Manchester papers, and in the London Times and the Daily News.

The Mayor of Salford having taken the chair.

Moved by Thomas Fairbairn, Esq.; seconded by W. R. Wood, Esq.

That the best thanks of this meeting be given to His Worship the Mayor for his services in the chair.

STEPHEN HEELIS, Chairman.

INFANT GARDEN AT WORK.

The System is Patronized by the Empress of the French, and was introduced into England by the Baroness Marchetti, Countess Krockow von Wickerode, &c.

Extract from *Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools, the Rev. M. M. Childs's General Report to the Minutes of the Committee of Council on Education, 1854-55, page 423.*

"It is with undisguised pleasure that I hailed the commencement of what, I hope, may prove to be a new era for infant life—the introduction into this country of a plan, successful in Saxony, which owes its origin to HER FROELICH, and was among the few novelties of the Educational Exhibition of last year.

It is a system, however, which has since been improved, and his own pleasing manner, of displaying it, ensured a success, which its merits, great as they are, might not have been equal to secure.

"This system, so judiciously adapted to the child, it treats the child as a child; encourages it to think for itself; teaches it, by childish toys and methods, gradually to develop in action, or hieroglyphic writing, its own ideas, to tell its own story, and to listen to that of others. There is no use of hard names, no mingling of 'perpendicular' or 'horizontal,' but whatever is said, and whatever is done, is totally and altogether such as belongs to a child. The features of the system are, 'occupation,' 'imitation,' 'the child is taught little, it simply produces.' It has toys, given to it, of the simplest sort; straight bits of stick, or pean, soaked in water. It is shown how to use them, and becomes, through the aid of an inventor. Churches, towers, houses, and mechanical adaptations swarm from the newly acquired power. Again, with cubes of wood, the ideas of the child take a more solid form; it learns the weight, number, and size of articles; adapts them to their places and fits them together; weaves, with strings of coloured paper, webs of varied beauty and certain significances of form, picks out patterns with a needle, and even cuts clay and models it, and tells some stories of its life, as the old Egyptians—those infants of an infant world might have done thousands of years ago. Stories, which the parent loves to read, combine with its high occupations, are songs and games, and downy beds of sweet repose.

"The chief improvement is, that the child learns every thing itself; that there is no forcing of its mind, that, when tired, it leaves off its labour, and having rested, it returns to it with vigour, or proceeds to something else. All that is required is tact, and patience in the teacher; the art of knowing when to speak and when to be silent; a pleasing person, a pleasing voice, and a great love of children."

The System is now being practically illustrated at the INFANT SCHOOL, 33, Addison road North, Notting-hill.

TOURS IN IRELAND IN 1856,

commencing 1st June and terminating 30th September.

The Public is respectfully informed that arrangements have been again entered into by the Chester and Holyhead Railway Company with the principal Railway Companies in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and with the City of Dublin Company, by which First and Second Class

"IRISH TOURIST TICKETS" will be issued at the following Stations and prices:—

	First Class.	Second Class.
London (Euston Station), Newcastle, Durham, &c.	£6 10 0	5 5 0
Edinburgh, Glasgow, Hull, Bristol, Carlisle, &c.	6 6 0	5 5 0
Darlington, Scarborough	5 15 0	4 15 0
Worcester, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Oxford, &c.	5 10 0	4 10 0
York, Birmingham, Rugby, Leamington, Coventry, &c.	5 5 0	4 5 0
Lincoln	5 0 0	4 5 0
Wolverhampton, Huddersfield, Leeds, Sheffield, Derby, &c.	4 10 0	3 15 0
Preston	4 4 0	3 10 0
Manchester, Warrington, Stoke, Macclesfield, &c.	4 0 0	3 5 0
Liverpool, Chester	3 10 0	2 10 0

These tickets (which in no case are transferable) will be available for One Month from the date of issue. They will enable the holders to proceed to Chester, thence to Bangor, Holyhead, and Dublin, from Dublin to Cork, situate on the picturesque River Lee, and within miles of the celebrated Harbour, Dockyard, and Naval Station of Queenstown (Cork); from Cork back to Malin, and thence by the Killarney Junction Railway to the far-famed

LAKES OF KILLARNEY.

The Tourist can remain as long as convenient to himself at Chester, Bangor, or the picturesque (but, Britannia Tabular Bridge), Holyhead (the new Refuge and Ocean Steam Harbour), Dublin, Cork, and Killarney; the only condition being, that his return to the Station in England or Scotland at which he took his ticket, must be not later than One Month from the date of his departure therefrom.

Chester, May 10, 1856.

MARINE SALTS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SEA-WATER FOR AQUARIUMS, BATHS, &c., as suggested by E. R. Langworthy, Esq., in his paper on "Marine Salts," published in the *British Association's* Report, 1855, page 10.

Prepared only by WILLIAM BOLTON, Operative and Manufacturing Chemist, 146, Holborn-bars.

MARINE AND FRESHWATER AQUARIA.

SANDERS & WOOLCOTT, 54, Doughty-street, Finsbury, London, Manufacturers of the Glass Tanks in the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park; in the Royal Zoological Gardens, Dublin; in the Conservatory of the Crystal Palace, and in the Aquarium, Chiswick; and various Museums throughout the kingdom, have constantly on hand, and in operation, GLASS TANKS, of all sizes, for the Marine and Freshwater Aquarium. These tanks can be safely forwarded to all parts, and Lists of Prices may be had on application to the above address, where also the Tanks may be seen.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.—Mr. W. ALFORD

LLOYD announces that his AQUARIUM Business is now removed to specially arranged and more commodious Premises, Nos. 19 & 20, Portland-road, Regent's Park, London, and that his future stock of LIVING MARINE ANIMALS and SEA-WEEDS will be much more varied and extensive than heretofore. A large and choice stock of MOUNTAIN SEA-WEEDS, ZOO-PHYTES, and FERNS for the Herbarium.

W. ALFORD, 19 & 20, Portland-road, Regent's Park, London.

THE AQUARIUM, MARINE AND FRESH-

WATER.—Living Marine Animals, Sea-Weeds, Sea-Water, Tanks, Glasses, Specific Gravity Tests, Valisneria, and every other requisite, both for Marine and Freshwater Aquaria. ON SALE. A large and choice stock of MOUNTAIN SEA-WEEDS, ZOO-PHYTES, and FERNS for the Herbarium.

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HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT,

Sudbrook Park, near Richmond, Surrey, 50 minutes from London. Terms—3s. guineas per week. Gymnasium, with two Beds, 4 guineas per week. Farm-house Establishment, 5s. 6d. per day. Bath Attendant, 4s. per week.

FREDERICK THOMSON, Secretary.

HYDROPATHY.—MOOR-PARK, near Farm-

ham, Surrey, three miles from the Camp at Aldershot, and formerly the residence of Sir William Temple and Dean Swift. PHYSICIAN, E. W. LANE, A.M., M.D., Edin. Dr. Lane may be CONSULTED in London, at 61, Conduit-street, Regent-street, every TUESDAY, between half-past 12 and 2.

NEW WORK BY DR. WILSON, OF MALVERN.

SECOND EDITION.

THE WATER-CURE: its PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE, A GUIDE IN THE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC DISEASE.

With authenticated Cases of Cure.

"We have recommended this book to every person who desires, by a trustworthy guide, to learn something of Hydropathy. The medical teaching is sound, and the book abounds in valuable practical hints on diet, digestion, &c."—*Examiner*.

London: J. Churchill, 11, New Burlington-street.

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DR. WILSON'S WATER-CURE ESTABLISHMENT, GREAT MALVERN, contains every requisite for Invalids, and was built by him expressly for his patients.

It has now been added to it a GYMNASIUM, for the Swedish system of MEDICAL GYMNASTICS, under a Professor from Berlin. It may be used alone, or in conjunction with the Water-Cure.—For a Prospectus apply to Dr. Wilson.

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PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

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&c.—Priced Catalogue of Recent Purchases, post free, 3d.; No. 1, Ditto, 3d. THE NUMISMATIC DICTIONARY, or Nominal List of all Coins ever issued, their Values, &c., post free, 2s. Edited and published by PETER WHELAN, Coin Dealer, 24, Bedford-street, Strand.

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**The Catalogue is so arranged and classified as to render it necessary for every lover of music.

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FOR PERUSAL as soon as published can be obtained at the UNITED LIBRARIES, 37, Regent-street, next the Royal Polytechnic Institution, London: BOOTH'S, removed from Duke-street, and CHURTON'S, from Holles-street.

English History and Antiquities, Books of Prints, Splendid Architectural Works, the noble volumes of Piranesi, black-letter and early-printed Books, beautifully illuminated Manuscripts upon vellum, &c. &c. are now ready, and will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp to frank it.

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MR. PAGE will SELL by AUCTION, at the Rooms, 21, Moorgate-street, on FRIDAY, May 20, at 12 o'clock, the STOCK of a STATIONER, comprising, Post and Foolscap Papers, 80,000 Envelopes, 20,000 official ditto, Copybooks, Valentines, Portemonnaies, Ledgers, Journals, an assortment of Fancy Goods, Iron-Score Stationery-press, two Iron Safes, four Glass Cases, and useful Fixtures.

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May be viewed two days prior to the Catalogues are now ready, and may be had; if in the Country, on receipt of two stamps.

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OF

ANTIQUITIES AND WORKS OF ART

of that Eminent Amateur, FREDERICK BÖCKE, Esq.

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Catalogues are nearly ready.

Important Sale of the Large and truly Valuable Library of the late JOHN NAYLOR, Esq., Craven House, Wakefield.

MR. BECKETT begs to announce that he has received instructions from the Executors to SELL, by AUCTION, in the Music Saloon, Wakefield, on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, June 3, 4, 5, and 6, the whole of the VALUABLE LIBRARY of BOOKS, in all departments of Literature; amongst which are, fine copies of Hogarth's works, Lodge's Portraits, a subscriber's copy of Kyall's Copperplate—Brookfield's Italy—Cotton's Travels—several editions of Shakespeare—Dibdin's Bibliographical and Antiquarian Works—Grosbeak's Antiquities—Winkles's Cathedral—Fletcher's numerous Illustrated Works—Encyclopædia Register, 1716 to 1830—Abbotsford Waverley—Army Lists, 1800 to 1835, and some earlier volumes—Navy Lists, 1813 to 1835, a few early ones wanting—Gentleman's Magazine, a complete set, from 1731 to the present time—Annual Register, 1730 to 1816—Herschel's Cyclopædia, 45 vols.—Gent's Histories of York, England, Ham, Ripon, York Cathedral, good copies—Gillray's Caricatures—Mansel—Johnson—Byron—Meyrick's Armour—Thoresby's Leeds, &c. &c. The whole, in good condition and in the best bindings, have been collected by the late owner with great discrimination and taste during the last 40 years. Catalogues may be had of Mr. Hicks, Bookseller, Wakefield, on including two stamps.

Live Birds, Cages, Cases, and Stuffed Birds.

MR. J. C. STEVENS will SELL by AUCTION, at his Great Room, 38, King-street, Covent-garden, on TUESDAY, May 27, at 1 o'clock precisely, A COLLECTION of LIVE BIRDS, including Grey and other Talking Parrots, Cockatoos, Love Birds, Java Birds, Cross Bills, Spice Birds, Virginian Nightingales, Doves, &c. Also, the Stock of Cages, Aviary, Birds Eggs, Insects, Stuffed Birds in Cases, and under Glass, Cabinets, &c. &c. the Property of Mr. J. A. VEX, who is leaving the Bird Room, at the Baker-street Bazaar.

May be viewed on the Morning of Sale, and Catalogues had of Mr. J. C. Stevens, 38, King-street, Covent-garden.

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PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Auctioneers of Literary Property, will SELL, by AUCTION, at their Great Room, 191, Piccadilly, on MONDAY, May 26, and two following days, a large and valuable COLLECTION of MUSIC, from the Libraries of several distinguished amateurs, including which may be found most of the best collections of Concerted Music, Duets, Trios, Quartets, Quintets, &c. Piano-forte Music, a few rare and curious works, Glee and Vocal Music; including a portion of the Library of the late Hon. George O'Callaghan, many years Member of the Madrigal Society; a few engraved Music Plates with Copyrights; also, Musical Instruments, Piano-fortes, Modern Harps by Erard, Harmonium, and Organ, and other Instruments, and Chamber Organ with seven barrels, Violins, Violoncello, Double Basses, by the most eminent makers, Concertina by Wheatstone, Cornopians, Boehm and other Flutes, and other Instruments, wind and stringed; Mahogany String Boxes, and other Cases, &c. &c. Catalogues will be sent on receipt of two stamps.

* * * Consignments intended for the Sale in June should now be forwarded.

Sale of about 900 dozen of Particular Old Port Wines, from five to seven years in Bottle, including a few Lots of the celebrated Regina Port, so distinguished for their softness and delicacy.

MESSRS. FOSTER & SON are instructed to SELL, by AUCTION, at the Gallery, 54, Pall Mall, on MONDAY, May 28, at 1 precisely, about 600 dozen Particular Old PORT, the several Lots of 1848 and 1847, shipped by order of an eminent house, and by them bottled at the precise dates stated in the Catalogues; and 300 dozen Particular Old Port, bottled in Oporto in the year of its shipping in cases to the late J. G. FEARN, Esq., of Regent's Park, by whose orders they were bonded by Messrs. Matthew, Clark & Son, in May and July, 1850, ex ships Start and Orion, from Oporto, from which periods they have been maturing in the London Booms, where they still are, and from whence they will be delivered to purchasers.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1856.

REVIEWS

England in the Eighteenth Century.—[*L'Angleterre au Dix-huitième Siècle: Études et Portraits pour servir à l'Histoire du Gouvernement Anglais depuis la fin du Règne de Guillaume III.*] By M. Charles de Rémusat. 2 vols. Paris, Didier & Co.; London, Nutt.

A series of articles in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* may be said to be the piles on which M. de Rémusat has constructed this new edifice. The Introduction to these volumes would make a valuable work of itself. This portion is devoted to a consideration of England generally. "What better can I do," asks the author, "when thinking of France, than gaze at England?" He has done so to the pleasure and advantage of the people of both countries. These pages are replete with lessons intended for the profit of our gallant neighbours, but which may be beneficially studied by ourselves. 'England in the Eighteenth Century' is an admirable handbook for historical and political students.

When Lord Grey carried the Reform Bill, Talleyrand exclaimed, in his safe and oracular way, "What was once unshakeable is so no longer. I say only that; but that is what I say!" M. de Rémusat judged more correctly of our condition. The Reform Bill was, undoubtedly, a revolution, but its success did not inspire us with a taste for revolutions. We have no national taste for putting in constant and violent activity the sacred right of insurrection. M. de Rémusat recognizes such an inclination in France. The revolutionary spirit there, he tells us, "is not the attachment of a Dutchman for the revolution of 1579; of an Englishman for the revolution of 1688; of an American for the revolution of 1776; of a Frenchman for the revolution of 1789:—it is a mere love for endless revolution. This genius of perpetual agitation has only too violently shaken our country. What has failed us is the constancy which attaches itself to acquired good, and which knows how to retain conquests effected. To dream of everything, and to attempt everything, is the best way to lose everything."

We have had almost as many revolutions as France; but we are a business people, and we accomplish them in a business-like way. The results have been purchased at a greater or less cost, and those results have not been merely transitorily glorious, but gloriously permanent; nay, more, they have been the well-used means for the attainment of further ends. While other people have destroyed results in order to attain new objects, we have made our objects the easier of attainment by carefully guarding previously hard-earned results. In this the government itself has often been the confederate of the people; and it is such wise confederacy that renders revolution less terrible and gives to it the name of reform. This has not escaped the observation of M. de Rémusat. "When I meet," he remarks, "the young Queen of this great empire passing through crowds who are respectful without cringing, and who pay homage without idolatry;—when, on seeing her ascending the steps to the Parliament, between the statues of Falkland and Hampden, I reflect that since the day on which this young woman first felt on her brow the crown of Richard of the Lion Heart and of William of Nassau, her Government has dared to do more for the people than, perhaps, any democracy would have done, and this 'Old England' has doubled its prosperity by anticipating reforms which are elsewhere effected only by revolutions, I am astonished, and I ask myself, 'What, then, has

this people done to have merited so much happiness as this!'"

M. de Rémusat alludes to the example set by our forefathers in establishing a constitutional monarchy; and when he treats of the memories dear to all Englishmen, he emphatically remarks that, with us, liberty is a national tradition. By which term we take him to imply that it is not a mere legend to gild the shield of any faction, but a precious thing delivered by each generation, as it passes away, to the watchful guardianship of that which follows. When the governing policy has been adverse to the national sentiment on this subject, the former has either voluntarily yielded in time, or it has been made to yield. Our Bill of Rights abolished no old privileges. It gave them effect and vigour,—and, remarks M. de Rémusat, "the English people may enjoy this proud conviction, that in order to defend themselves from, or revenge themselves upon, tyranny, they have nothing to do but to remember their past history." The "Remember, twelve" of Belvidera is not more significant.

The principles of our constitution show that we have not forgotten our past history; and it is because of such memory that, however England may have passingly suffered by revolution, it has never perished. The English spirit, as it is seen in the constitution which has sprung from it, "keeps up among the masses the salutary conviction that there is something in the world which should be inviolable. That spirit accomplishes revolutions, but it does not create a revolutionary people." A just and well-expressed distinction. Among us, opinions are divided rather than classes. We struggle upon questions of "right," and in these struggles all ranks are mingled. At Runnymede itself, there were not only barons, but gentry and citizens, to bend the reluctant hand of John to sign the grant of freedom for Englishmen generally. Thus we have an historical, and not a philosophical, liberty. Our freedom is built not upon a successful theory of any sort, as some may, indeed, well be; but on historical facts: and, as M. de Rémusat observes, we have only to remember them if our freedom should ever be threatened.

We must refer our readers to the eloquent chapters on the religion of England; on a comparison of both countries during two centuries; on England considered from ancient France as a point of view; and on the French Revolution,—touching which M. de Rémusat, all conservative as he is, remarks that for years he has desired to see written an apology for that Revolution, which has been disfigured by the hand of exaggeration. These chapters serve as a noble introduction to what the author modestly calls "fragments," but which are, in truth, treatises of great value and ability. M. de Rémusat is the advocate of political liberty, and he has been sojourning among us to study and mark its effects upon the English people. He thinks that if our army may learn much from that of France, the French government and people may find instruction that will bring forth fruits in the parliamentary history, so to speak, of England, from the last days of William the Third to those of Fox. The object, we presume, is to show to thinking men who govern France and to eager people who will welcome the demonstration, that the battles of politics may be more safely fought in a representative Parliament than in the streets; and that, such being the case, France, having proved herself worthy of being free, might safely be permitted to enjoy that mixture of unity and liberty which constitutes what is called a representative monarchy. To enable her the better to avoid

past errors, these pages seem to have been written. If we have guessed the author's object correctly, we can only hope that it may be speedily and safely attained.

His method is to give detached portraits. By portraits, he says, one may learn to know the physiognomy of an entire epoch. Accordingly, we have a full-length and elaborate picture of Bolingbroke. The details would fill any two English octavo volumes. The other portraits are those of Horace Walpole, Junius, Burke, and Fox. It will be seen that the period passed over was a grand parliamentary period. Under Anne, to whom William bequeathed the War of Succession, made popular in this country by the ridiculous error of Louis the Fourteenth, who acknowledged the Pretender at the same time that he pretended to acknowledge William of Nassau,—the question discussed was, Peace or War. Whig and Tory, Marlborough and Godolphin, on one side,—Oxford and Bolingbroke on the other. The Stuarts had been looking forward to a restoration, which would probably have been effected had Bolingbroke held power a few days longer; but the principles of the Revolution flourished, the House of Hanover quietly succeeded, and the Whigs enjoyed a tenure of office during half-a-century. Under Walpole, Pelham, and Pitt, whether peace prevailed or war raged, the representative system increased in its strength. Unbridled popular liberty and free discussion were found to be not incompatible with prosperity and victory. Under George the Third the cry for Reform was only momentarily hushed by the faults and calamities of the American War. It was uttered all the louder when that war was brought to a close; but then it was made dumb for a season by the thunder of the French Revolution. Two free spirits then stood in presence of each other on either side of the Channel:—"The one wishes to preserve too much, the other to destroy in equal excess. War breaks out."

To shed some light on this period, for the benefit of the French people, M. de Rémusat has become, in a very agreeable way, its historian. With the personal history of Bolingbroke he gives us a history of the internal government of the reign of Anne, the epoch of the reign of great parliamentary "parties." For the period succeeding Bolingbroke he has recourse to the history by, and the letters of, Horace Walpole,—whose deposition on the government and structure of English society he cites as being not without a certain value, Walpole being a man who sat open-eyed and ready-eared, "believed he knew everything, and he wrote everything he knew." Then, in the midst of the adversaries, arrives, all unlooked-for, the mysterious knight who "disturbs the order of battle, smites and overthrows the combatants, and then disappears. I mean Junius." Finally, we enter on the era of Reform or Revolution which disunited Burke and Fox, and with the latter the author brings his work to a close. "We do not wish to treat of our own times," he remarks, "One must not say everything." In portraying this period he is judicially impartial: he readily detects and exposes the defects of a parliamentary administration; but he sees that it is a reasonable system of government for reasoning men, whereby to solve a great problem. "The problem of politics," he says, "is not to suppress evil or transform the world, but to cause good to prevail in the world such as it is."

More than a century has elapsed since Bolingbroke disappeared from this earthly scene, and his reputation for ability is as splendid as ever. Time, too, has done him justice in other respects, and no man now believes that he was the atheist that his enemies described him to be, or that

with his deism and his acknowledged uncertainty touching the future, he was not as upright as many of his contemporaries who professed more and believed even less. Perhaps Bolingbroke would have himself been more orthodox but for the rigidity of his early Presbyterian training. If his grandmother had not compelled him, when a boy at Battersea, to read through and through the commentaries of Dr. Manton, who boasted that he had composed 119 sermons on the 119th Psalm, he, perhaps, would not have lived, for a time, such a life as to cause certain lively ladies of London to exclaim to one another, when he was made Secretary of State, "St. John is minister; 8,000 guineas a year; it will be all for us!"

M. de Rémusat names 1678 as the year in which Henry St. John was born, at Battersea. Some biographers place it six years earlier. He had the irreparable misfortune to lose his mother when he was very young,—irreparable, because his father was not a man who understood children, or appreciated his son. He could neither enter into the feelings of his son, nor make those sacrifices for him which attach so closely a motherless boy to the father who does his best to supply a mother's place. One consequence was, that when Bolingbroke left his strict grandmother's side, the unwelcome teaching of rigid Burgess and the detested commentaries of Manton, and found himself at Eton, he gave loose rein to his inclinations, and soon became a finished young gentleman, according to the gentlemanly ideas of those times. At Oxford, he was the most handsome, engaging and quick-witted member of the University; and when he married, in 1700, the daughter of Sir Harry Winchescomb, and entered Parliament for Wotton Bassett, there was not a young husband who had his reputation for dissipation, nor young senator more ready and fitted for his vocation than the brilliant St. John. He attached himself to Harley, and he was speedily rewarded with, or rather he splendidly earned, the post of Secretary at War and of the Marines. He was the correspondent of Marlborough; and Blenheim and Ramilies were won during his Secretaryship.

He "went out" with his leader in 1707, conducted himself with consummate skill and patience during three years, and when Harley recovered office in 1710 as Chancellor of the Exchequer, Henry St. John was appointed Secretary of State; and he wrote what was called "the famous letter to the *Examiner*." He sat for Bucks, surmounted the difficulties which seemed to prevent the possibility of accomplishing the Peace of Utrecht, and was created Viscount Bolingbroke. He treated the creation as an insult, for Harley had promised him an earldom if he would retain his place in the Commons till the peace was effected. When that was done, Harley accepted the title of Earl of Oxford for himself, and put his follower off with the title of Viscount. The indignant eloquence with which Bolingbroke denounced the treachery of Oxford is well known.

He cannot, however, escape a similar charge himself. He professed High Church principles and a zeal for the Protestant succession at a time when he had really no fixed religious principles, and when he was secretly in the interest of the Pretender. At the death of Anne, he ill served the unfortunate Prince in whose interest he professed to be,—and Atterbury accused him of throwing away the grandest opportunity that had ever offered itself for restoring the Stuart line. Bolingbroke only wanted time, but the time meanwhile had passed, and soon after the accession of George the First he was a fugitive in France, where he, subsequent to some coquetting, entered the service of the

Pretender. He satisfied his new master as little as he had done the Brunswick King; and as both these illustrious personages accused him of treason, Bolingbroke placed his alleged treachery to the Pretender against his treason to the House of Brunswick,—and Lord Stair, the English ambassador at Paris, at length procured for him a conditional promise of pardon. Waiting its realization, Bolingbroke passed his time in France,—having lost his wife, married the richly-dowered widow of the Marquis de Vilette, and wrote several of those works which have procured for him a diversely-qualified reputation, according to the temper and party of the critic. His free pardon reached him in 1723. He hastened to England, by way of Calais, where Atterbury, then entering on his exile, is said to have met him, and to have exclaimed, "Then I am exchanged!"—which to those who are acquainted with the history of the political intrigues and incidents of the time in England will appear to be by no means improbable.

When restored to his inheritance and possessed of the privilege to purchase land, he settled at Dawley, where the active ex-statesman became much more of a farmer than ever Diocletian was in his retirement. Pope has described him watching the sky for prognostics of weather, sitting between hay-cocks, and having purged himself of peccant humours at Bath, keeping himself in health and vigour at Dawley on mutton-broth, beans, bacon, and barn-door fowls!

"Fiery Bolingbroke," however, only feigned this patience and this rustic passion. He sighed for political employment, and, failing to obtain it, he wrote against the government, assailed the minister,—his old rival Walpole,—diverted himself with philosophical studies, and, in 1735, again retired to France, disappointed and disgusted. He only followed, in this, the example of great men of antiquity: Plato, he said, ceased to act for the commonwealth when he ceased to persuade; and Solon laid down his arms before the public magazines, when he had lost all hope of successfully opposing the too powerful Pisistratus.

From 1735 to 1742 he remained abroad, studying letters, and showing to what good purpose he did so by his noble and well-known defence of such a pursuit. The following nine years were passed, in similar occupation, in England. He was never restored to the peerage nor again employed in public business; but though he chafed at this treatment, he found some solace by devotion to literary occupation, and by commenting on the events which he was not permitted to control. He died in the year last named, and left Mallet a small sum of money to perform the office of literary executor. Poor David obtained neither praise nor profit by fulfilling his office. Johnson described "testator" and "legatee" as, the one a scoundrel and a coward, who, being afraid to discharge the murderous weapon he had loaded against society, had left half-a-crown to the other, a beggarly Scotchman, to pull the trigger!

Such is an outline of what is most skillfully filled up by the practised hand of M. de Rémusat. The theme of "Bolingbroke" has never been more ably treated, and no writer more irresistibly conveys the idea to his reader of his hero being as highly endowed in intellect as in person,—as able to magnificently express as to conceive,—as such an incomparable man of business as he was a profligate man of pleasure, and a partizan who staked all for a hero in whom, on coming to know him, he found nothing heroic. Bolingbroke was, unquestionably, the greatest, though not the most praise-

worthy, man of his age. But of all his gifts, his gift of eloquence was the greatest, and Pitt said that he would rather recover a lost speech by Bolingbroke than all the missing chapters of Livy.

Of the other characters in these volumes we must speak briefly. Touching Walpole, the author meets the assertion, that he was "all affectation," by a passage from one of Madame Du Deffand's letters:—"Your desire to please does not carry you to any affectation." But he adds:—"Doubtless one is not compelled to look upon Rodrigue with the eyes of Chimène,—nevertheless, women of wit are judges of character, and to love an individual is not necessarily to be deceived in him."

With regard to Junius, the author, while acknowledging certain difficulties, is decidedly a *Franciscan* in his views of the author. His *résumé* of Burke may be read in a citation which he accepts, that "Burke is the Bossuet of politics." To Fox full justice is rendered. Fox resembled Bolingbroke in two things,—his fondness for pleasure and his aptitude for business. Both were great orators, but of a very different quality. M. de Rémusat says that he saw beneath a fine and expressive bust of Fox, in Lord Brougham's house, the celebrated words of *Æschines* applied to Demosthenes. We suppose he alludes to those in which *Æschines* so appropriately compared his great rival to a Siren, from the melody of his expressions. We like still better a passage that M. de Rémusat might have found in Walpole, though it refers to Fox only in his early career. "Fox's abilities," says Horace, in 1772, "are amazing at so very early a period, especially under the circumstances of such a dissolute life. He was just arrived from Newmarket—had sat up drinking all night—and had not been in bed. How such talents make one laugh at Tully's rules for an orator, and his inde fatigable application. His laboured orations are puerile in comparison of this boy's manly reason." In this respect the first and the last character in these volumes justify, and the circle is complete. We have the statesman between two dynasties—the aristocratic watcher of all parties—the democratic *mailloin*, if we may borrow the word, who struck so heavily at sovereign and ministers,—the assailer of arbitrary power, who, "in his prophetic fury, admonished nations,"—and the "friend of the people," who would never accept the theory of the divine right of kings. Under despotic governments, not one of these men would have lived in unrestrained freedom. Under a constitutional monarchy, they enjoyed a liberty which *we*, perhaps, should not now enjoy, had not most of them asserted that such freedom was our birthright,—secured to us by those events in our history which M. de Rémusat counsels us to remember, if ever that right should be in peril.

Perversion; or, the Causes and Consequences of Infidelity: a Tale for the Times. 3 vols. Smith, Elder & Co.

THIS work is extremely clever. It is intended to show the different phases that Infidelity assumes, and to trace the practical result in their different social manifestations. The Preface begins by an assertion that may be taken as the text which the book develops:—"The causes of Infidelity are different in different characters: its consequences are the same in all." * * The consequences that result from Infidelity are—moral deterioration and the loss of happiness and peace." The author, availing himself of his right to have all the talk one way, and to shape all events to his own moral, causes his story to prove the truth of his theory. An author sitting down to write a story has, of

course, the right to entail whatever moral he thinks fit,—and on points of doctrinal theology the *Athenæum* always abstains from giving an opinion. We accept the story of 'Perversion' as we find it.

The book is well and temperately written; but it is evident in the first page that the author has little sympathy with the "obstinate questionings" that perplex the souls of many, who are honest and true of heart, but who feel that a real doubt can no more be trifled with than a real conviction,—that it must be met and grappled with and brought to a legitimate and honest conclusion, or that it will choke the life of a man. Scepticism must be treated honestly like anything else,—juggling with any conviction is nothing better than a branch of pious fraud.

The two chief characters in the book, Charles Bampton and Frederick Armstrong, are intended for types of two classes of sceptics. Bampton, the mild, intellectual, amiable unbeliever, who has lost his faith in Christianity because he cannot meet the arguments which his friend Armstrong brings against the evidences,—a scepticism founded chiefly on a want of knowledge. Armstrong, the other type, is a coarse, sensual, hard-headed atheist, who has thrown off all religion because he desires to be emancipated from all the laws of morality, and who makes his liberty a cloak of maliciousness. He is well drawn, perhaps rather too favourably for a man so entirely callous to all sense of right and wrong. He is the persecutor, though perverted,—the evil genius of Charles Bampton; his theological scepticism is represented as the cause of his moral scoundrelism,—a point which many will feel disposed to question. Tenterden steeple may be the cause of the Goodwin Sands,—but our own opinion is, that Armstrong would have been a coarse brute and an ingrained scoundrel if he had worn a white apron and lidd in theory every one of the Thirty-nine Articles. Had the author himself ever gone through the fiery ordeal of conscientious doubt and iniquity, he would have found more difficulty in handling his subject than he seems to have done. His theories would not have cut out the facts of his story with so clean a die.

We would not be misunderstood. There is no intentional unfairness or misrepresentation in this book,—but there is an entire absence of sympathy with sceptics and of respect for anything they might advance in their own defence; "moral deterioration and the loss of happiness and peace" are rigidly insisted upon as the penalties of finding the least difficulty in adopting an orthodox creed. The author does not indulge in reciprocal argument, which is very judicious; but he avails himself of his position as narrator to make all the facts of the story tell on his own side, and for this no one can blame him. An author is an absolute monarch in the realm of his own creation. The story has a touching interest, which lingers with the reader after he has closed the book. We might make objections in detail, but that is a fact which swallows them. There is no attempt at eloquence or fine writing; the style is rigidly simple, but firm and strong. The character of Clara is extremely interesting; Mrs. Bampton, the weak, worrying, selfish mother, is also good,—but Mrs. Trollope has drawn her type before. The sketches of the great manufacturing town and the inhabitants thereof are drawn from the outside of things; they are clever, but not to the life,—reflections of the surface only. None except those born and bred amongst that class can understand all that goes to make them what they are. There are subtle differences between the different large commercial towns which no

stranger can seize or understand. The sketches of Cottonham are the least successful portions of the book. To conclude, if 'Perversion' fails to please one class of readers, we prophesy that it will have great success with another,—although, perhaps, they may not be the individuals for whose benefit the story was mainly written.

A Summer in Northern Europe; including Sketches in Sweden, Norway, Finland, the Aland Islands, Gothland, &c. By Selina Bunbury. 2 vols. Hurst & Blackett.

THE vivacity displayed in these two volumes is most provoking; the subject being too good for quadrille gossip. The burst of summer over the islands of the Mälar, or along the gloomy banks of the Wenern, must be painted by no unskilful hand. Miss Bunbury tells us, that there is no spring in the North,—that the flowers are out as soon as the snow has melted,—that there is great excitement in Stockholm when the first little packet gets up its steam, to go and learn whether the way is clear to the Baltic,—but she fails to realize a picture. Her gossip is lively, and, here and there, even charming; but it is generally incoherent. In the middle of a story about a widowed countess she glances off to an old, old description of travelling over ice. In at least eight places we are told that ivy is a Swedish exotic. The opening of the second volume is almost a paraphrase of that of the first. The most threadbare maxims are used with a perfectly refreshing innocence; and Sir Edmund Lyons, who, it appears, was courteous to the authoress in his capacity of British Minister at Stockholm, is introduced as a peg whereon some wild ideas about war may be hung. And, then, the descriptions of rockland and fir forests are so often repeated that they raise a laugh where they are intended to be impressive; while leave-takings, embarkations, and disembarkations are enlarged upon with the most wearisome minuteness. In short, Miss Bunbury, with materials for a pleasant little book in her possession, has manufactured two volumes, of 300 pages each. Her descriptions of Gothland and the Aland Isles, and some pretty stories and legends, often buried in small-talk of the flimsiest kind, are fresh and piquant. The Dalecarlian boatwomen of Stockholm,—the Swedish love of titles,—the poverty of Scandinavian barons,—the mishaps of sledding, &c., have been described already, and by abler painters than Miss Bunbury; and, in dealing with these well-known materials in her touch-and-go style, she has made a most unfortunate mistake. This is the more to be regretted for the really pleasant reading the book is likely to bury under it. We will, however, select one or two passages of fresh and lively gossip, that may have the effect of inducing readers, disposed to know something about the surface life of the hospitable people who inhabit the Baltic islands, to follow Miss Bunbury's narrative. Few travellers find their way from London to Gothland now-a-days. Commerce has forsaken Wisby, that once celebrated Hanse Town. It is now a great, grey ruin, dotted over with the bright, red wooden houses of the modern Scandinavian race. Miss Bunbury's description of its impression on her will give the reader perhaps the best specimen of her pictorial power.—

"Wisby in its ruins, supplies a good deal of food to the imagination, but it is hard for a stranger, especially an English one, to sustain the mere animal existence there, unless one has access to the hospitable tables of the comfortable citizens who draw their own provisions from their country farms. Neither white bread, meat, eggs, nor even fish can be procured for a hapless lodger in 'private apartments.' So that such a one is often forced to wish

it were possible to live really as well as imaginatively in the good old times of Wisby's history, when the fat burghers had something better to sustain them, and when its wealthy merchants drew their luxuries from all lands—a time when, as the children here, and perhaps some of their elders too, really do believe

The streets were paved with penny loaves,
And the houses thatched with pancakes;

when window-frames were made of gold and their sills of precious marble, and the locks of the doors of silver. In fact, if we are to believe in the traditions of Wisby, gold, silver, and precious stones were as common things here as King Solomon in his time made them in Jerusalem. These traditions of ancient wealth and splendour are known to the poorest here, but the history of the time to which they relate exists, for the most part, in mouldering ruins or solid stone-work which have resisted time and violence, and still preserve to the people of Wisby the traditional belief in its fabulous riches and splendour. The reality of its former state when contrasted with its present might be surprising enough, and it is singular that no written document, nor detailed history, records the interesting annals of the little Island of Gothland. Fragments of stone are the chief chronicles of its former state. The past and the present are singularly contrasted in the aspect of this little capital. The ruins are so great, the old existing buildings so fine, the modern wooden houses so spruce, neat, and gaily coloured, the old wooden houses so black, confused, huddled together, and repulsive, that one cannot help wishing the ancient curious town had been left in its ruins and a better site chosen for the modern one; for these modern wooden works, rising as they do amid broken walls, and towers, and churches, give the idea of temporary erections put up in a town which has been sacked and dismantled. Those neat many-coloured wooden houses with their flower-shaded windows, or nicely netted white blinds, would look charmingly in a village, but are out of character within the old walls of a once fortified town, which walls are set around with no less than forty towers; and there is a rather disagreeable want of harmony between them and the great, strong, quaint stone houses, where the wealthy and thrifty traders of other days had their ware-rooms over their dwelling-rooms, and kept all snug and safe to themselves. The doors of these ware-rooms now lie open, wares there are none, but the rooms are sometimes inhabited by poor families. In almost every street one comes on some fine piece of old stone-work whose solidity or beauty contrasts strongly with the poor little dwellings that shelter the modern inhabitants of Wisby. The ruins of a demolished Palace, but above all the wonderful aspect, in this little town, of those of ten beautiful Gothic churches, with broken arches and windows telling more of violence than of time, delight the artist, and startle the wandering stranger whose aching feet perambulate the rough narrow streets that now only display the signs of poverty, dullness and decay."

Now noticed by our merchants chiefly for the railway sleepers wrought for its hard fir forests, Gothland, with its curious old churches, white-washed to cover the venerable mould of their wondrous age, has yet to be written about; for Miss Bunbury drove round the island in haste, and gathered but the scantiest proportion of the materials that were about her. We have extracts from Bishop Wallin, instead of personal observation. The story of the cloister robber, and that of the Countess L—, are out of place. Here, however, is a picture of a parsonage in Gothland, and the priest's wife, simply and freshly sketched:—

"At Bro, where was a station, I was again struck by the sight of a beautiful old church; leaving my companions at the post-house, I hastened on, and walking through a large yard, knocked at the door of a house adjoining this church, and requested the key. The maid servant invited me to walk in, and though I would fain have refused on the plea of haste, I felt obliged by her polite manner to comply. I entered a large salong, or eating-room, where a nice, plainly dressed woman soon came to me. I requested the key of the church door, which she said

she would have the pleasure of showing me, speaking of the honour I did her in coming to see her, and regretting that her husband was not at home to share in it. On hearing which I rose up from my chair, and, making the best curtsy I could make, said that I had then the honour of seeing Prestinnan, or the Priestess—or the Priest's wife—as one may prefer to translate the title. And she rose up and curtsied and said, yes; and when I again asked for the key of the church door she said coffee would soon be ready. But, as I wanted the key of the church door more than the coffee, she agreed to come and show me the church first and give me the coffee afterwards. And never was Priestess more proud of a church than she was; and, indeed—whitewash and pews and other horrible etceteras put out of the way—justly might she be so, for the church of Bro, like other churches of Gottland, is a beautiful thing—if it had been let alone. Bro is a sort of Cathedral Church, for Gottland is now an independent Bishopric; and with not a little elation did kind Prestinnan lead me to that favoured spot—the vestry room—and show me the really magnificent vestments of the country parish priest—there was velvet and gold enough in cope and chasuble to make all England quake in horror at the notion of such being seen on Protestant shoulders!—yet Protestant enough were those that bore them."

We have remarked already that Miss Bunbury's volumes include some characteristic and interesting stories from those wild regions where the Laps, or Swedes, spin through the winter, beguiling the long hours of darkness with strange romances. Of these, we have selected one for extract. It illustrates the curiously superstitious mind of the North, where, even while we write, Runic calendars dangle still in many a wayside hut.—

"Once upon a time there lived in Finland a very wild and wicked young man, who, after a long course of profanity and licentiousness, crowned all his bad deeds by becoming a Finn-Bluebeard. He married three young women almost at once, shut them up in a wicker basket, and burned them. No one knew the fate of the three poor girls; they had disappeared. That was all. One morning the young man was found stretched on the threshold of his door dead, his body covered with dark blue spots. It was clear he had spent the night in wrestling with the Evil One, and been overcome. They buried him, however, with the rites of the church. The next morning the sacristan going early to ring the Angelus, saw to his horror the dead body of the young man whom they had buried standing erect in a niche in the outer porch of the church. He ran to the priest, who, believing some one had raised the body from its tomb, buried it again. But up rose the corpse once more, came back to the porch that night, and appeared in its niche the following morning. Three times they reburied it; three times he rose again. At last the good man perceived that other powers were engaged in this, and he suffered the corpse to remain unmolested in its niche. Finally, only a skeleton was there, and no one passed it without the sign of the cross. Years passed away, and the story might have been forgotten, if the skeleton in the porch did not tend to keep its memory fresh. Perhaps it was a desire to get rid of such a monitor to his conscience, that led another wild young man to resolve to have it displaced from its niche. Instead, however, of trying to do so himself, he engaged the services of a young girl, whose innocent mind made her devoid of fear. By the promise of a good reward, he prevailed on her to go one evening to the church and carry away the skeleton. She reached the outer porch, advanced to the niche, and approached the thing that had been so long erect there. But lo! instead of her extending her arms the skeleton stretched out his. More horrible still, it spoke. It told her she must be squeezed to death in those dreadful arms, since she had dared to violate the repose of the dead. Her prayers and cries moved even a skeleton to pity her, and in its hollow voice it said:—'If you will save yourself, you may save me also. Go then into the church; there you will see three young girls kneeling before the altar. They are my three brides, whom I burned in one day. For that crime I am compelled to remain here. I

can neither rest in the grave, nor enter the threshold of the holy temple. Here I must remain for ever unless I can obtain their pardon. For fifty years I have waited for this occasion of employing some one to ask them to pardon me: go, now, and do so.' The girl tremblingly opened the door of the church; the whole nave was lighted up as if for a grand festival; and the soft tones of a plaintive chant resounded throughout it. At the foot of the altar three young girls were kneeling, covered in a long white veil. The chant was by them. The poor mortal girl approached her spiritual sisters and trembling craved for the pardon for the skeleton at the porch door. 'No, no,' chanted the three spirits. 'No pardon for him.' The messenger returned with the fatal reply. 'Yet once more ask them, if not for my sake for yours to pardon me,' said the skeleton in answer; 'else shall you die.' She repeated her prayer to the three spirits with this addition. 'No, no; there is no pardon for him.' 'Yet once more try if you can prevail,' said the skeleton. Again she went, and falling on her knees, cried to the three spirits, 'Pardon him, pardon him for the sake of the Saviour!' 'He is pardoned, he is pardoned!' repeated each spirit. The chant ceased; the lights went out; the three spirit-brides disappeared, and the skeleton moved away from its niche; sunk down in its grave, and lay there ever after."

We close these volumes with an expression of regret that the authoress, who has already pretended to describe life in Sweden, should have entangled all the new matter she had to offer to her readers in an impenetrable web of the frailest, poorest gossip. Still, even this gossip may amuse a few people who wish to revive their impressions of Sweden; while the more solid part of the work will reward those persons who have the patience to seek it, encouraged by the finger-posts we have set up for them.

Answers to the Edinburgh Reviewer of Croker's Boswell, selected from 'Blackwood's Magazine.' Murray.

THE republication, in a cheap form, for railway reading, of Mr. Macaulay's bitter and unjust article on Mr. Croker's edition of 'Boswell's Life of Johnson,' has induced Mr. Murray to issue in a cheap form a series of replies to the assertions and criticisms of that article. The tone of the reply seems caught from that of the Edinburgh Reviewer, and as our readers shall see, the reviewer of Mr. Croker is paid in his own coin,—his facts being sharply scrutinized and his authoritative decisions overthrown. In the ensuing extracts we have reproduced,—without comment of our own, not caring to interfere in the skirmish, either as advocate or apologist,—the chief points on which Mr. Croker is assailed by Mr. Macaulay and defended by the critic of *Blackwood*.—

Review.—"In one place we are told that Allan Ramsay, the painter, was born in 1709, and died in 1784; in another, that he died in 1784, in the seventy-first year of his age. If the latter statement be correct, he must have been born in or about 1713."

Answer.—"This is but a dishonest trick of his Reviewer. The age is indeed stated differently in the two notes; but one note is Mr. Croker's, and one is Mr. Boswell's. Mr. Boswell states colloquially that 'Allan Ramsay died in 1784, in his seventy-first year'; Mr. Croker states, with more precision, that 'he was born in 1709, and died in 1784'; and Mr. Croker is right—see, if you choose, 'Biographical Dictionary,' *voce* Ramsay—and thus, because Mr. Croker corrects an error, the Reviewer accuses him of making one."

Review.—"Mr. Croker says, that at the commencement of the intimacy between Dr. Johnson and Mrs. Thrale, in 1765, the lady was twenty-five years old."

Answer.—"Why, Mr. Croker says no such thing. He says, 'Mrs. Thrale was twenty-five years of age when the acquaintance commenced,' but he does not

say when it commenced, nor when it became intimacy. It is Mr. Boswell who states, that in 1765 Mr. Johnson was introduced into the family of Mrs. Thrale; but in the very next page we find Mrs. Thrale herself stating that the acquaintance began in 1764, and that the more strict intimacy might be dated from 1766. So that the discrepancy of two or three years, which, by a double falsification of Mr. Croker's words, the Reviewer attributes to him, belongs really to Mr. Boswell and Mrs. Thrale themselves."

Review.—"In another place, he says that Mrs. Thrale's thirty-fifth year coincided with Johnson's seventieth. Johnson was born in 1709; if, therefore, Mrs. Thrale's thirty-fifth year coincided with Johnson's seventieth, she could have been but twenty-one years old in 1765."

Answer.—"Mr. Croker states, that from a passage in one of Johnson's letters, 'he suspects,' and 'it may be surmised,' that Mrs. Thrale's thirty-fifth and Johnson's seventieth years coincided. Is it not an absolute misrepresentation to call an opinion, advanced in the cautious terms of *surmise* and *suspicion*, as a statement of a fact?"

Review.—"But this is not all: Mr. Croker, in another place, assigns the year 1777 as the date of the complimentary lines which Johnson made on Mrs. Thrale's thirty-fifth birthday. If this date be correct, Mrs. Thrale must have been born in 1742, and could have been only twenty-three when her acquaintance with Johnson commenced."

Answer.—"Mr. Croker does no such thing. He inserts the complimentary lines under the year 1777, because he must needs place them somewhere, and, in the doubt of two or three years, which, as I have already shown, may exist between Mr. Boswell's account and Mrs. Thrale's own, he placed them under 1777; but, so far from positively assigning them to that particular year, he cautiously premises, 'It was about this time that these verses were written;' and he distinctly states, in two other notes, that he doubts whether that was the precise date. Here again, therefore, his Reviewer is dishonest. 'Two of Mr. Croker's three statements must be false.' Mr. Croker has made but one statement, and that is not impugned; the two discrepancies belong to Mr. Boswell and Mrs. Thrale, and the falsehood—to the Reviewer."

Review.—"Mr. Croker tells us that the great Marquis of Montrose was beheaded at Edinburgh in 1650. There is not a forward boy at any school in England, who does not know that the Marquis was hanged. The account of the execution is one of the finest passages in Lord Clarendon's history. We can scarcely suppose that Mr. Croker has never read the passage, and yet we can scarcely suppose that any who has ever perused so noble and pathetic a story, can have utterly forgotten all its most striking circumstances."

Answer.—"We really almost suspect that the Reviewer himself has not read the passage to which he refers, or he could hardly have accused Mr. Croker of shewing—by having said that Montrose was 'beheaded,' when the Reviewer thinks he should have said 'hanged'—that he had forgotten the most 'striking passage' of Clarendon's noble 'account of the execution.' For it is not on the execution itself that Lord Clarendon dwells with the most pathos and effect, but on the previous indignities at and after his trial, which Montrose so magnanimously endured. Clarendon, with scrupulous delicacy, avoids all mention of the peculiar mode of death, and is wholly silent as to any of the circumstances of the execution, leaving the reader's imagination to supply, from the terms of the sentence, the odious details; but the Reviewer, if he had really known or felt the true pathos of the story, would have remembered that the sentence was, that the Marquis should be hanged and beheaded, and that his head should 'be stuck on the Tolbooth of Edinburgh'; and it was this very circumstance of the beheading, which excited in Montrose that burst of eloquence which is the most striking beauty of the whole of the 'noble and pathetic story.' 'I am prouder,' said he to his persecutors, 'to have my head set upon the place it is appointed to be, than I should be to have my picture hung in the King's bedchamber!' And this—the beheading—is the incident which the Reviewer

imagines that Mr. Croker may have 'forgotten,' because he does tell us that Montrose was beheaded when he should have drily told us he was hanged."

Review.—"It was in the year 1761," says Mr. Croker, "that Goldsmith published his 'Vicar of Wakefield.' This leads the editor to observe a more serious inaccuracy of Mrs. Piozzi than Mr. Boswell notices, when he says Johnson left her table to go and 'sell 'The Vicar of Wakefield' for Goldsmith. Now, Dr. Johnson was not acquainted with the Thrales till 1765, four years after the book had been published." Mr. Croker, in reprehending the fancied inaccuracy of Mrs. Thrale, has himself shown a degree of inaccuracy, or, to speak more properly, a degree of ignorance hardly credible. The 'Traveller' was not published till 1765; and it is a fact as notorious as any in literary history, that 'The Vicar of Wakefield,' though written before 'The Traveller,' was published after it. It is a fact, which Mr. Croker may find in any common life of Goldsmith; in that written by Mr. Chambers, for example. It is a fact which, as Boswell tells us, was distinctly stated by Dr. Johnson in a conversation with Sir Joshua Reynolds. It is therefore quite possible and probable that the celebrated scene of the landlady, the sheriff's officer and the bottle of Madeira may have taken place in 1765. Now, Mrs. Thrale expressly says that it was near the beginning of her acquaintance with Johnson in 1763, or at all events, not later than 1766, that he left her table to succour his friend. Her accuracy is therefore completely vindicated."

Answer.—"Here again the reviewer, in attempting to correct a verbal inaccuracy, displays the error or the ignorance of which he unjustly accuses Mr. Croker. It would, indeed, have been more accurate if Mr. Croker had said that Goldsmith had, in 1761, 'sold the work to the publisher,' for it was not actually published to the world till after 'The Traveller'; but the fact as to the publication has nothing to do with the point in question, which is the time when Goldsmith sold the work, and whether Johnson could have left Thrale's table to sell it for him. In other words, whether the sale took place prior to 1765. Mr. Croker again says *aye*—the reviewer says *no*—and the Reviewer is again decidedly in the wrong, and Mr. Croker is clearly right, according to the very authority to which the Reviewer refers us. Chalmers tells us, indeed, that the novel was published after the poem—but he also tells us, to the utter discomfiture of the Reviewer, that 'the novel was sold and the money paid for it some time before.' So that the sale took place, even according to the Reviewer's own admission, before 1765. The Reviewer states that 'The Traveller' was not published till 1765, but even in this fact he is wrong. 'The Traveller' was published in 1764, and if he will open the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1764 he will find extracts in it from that poem. This fact corroborates Mr. Croker's inference; Mrs. Piozzi had said that 'Johnson was called away from her table, either in 1765 or 1766, to sell the novel.' Mr. Croker says this must be inaccurate, because the book was sold long before that date. Now, it is proved that it was sold before the publication of 'The Traveller,' and it is also proved that 'The Traveller' was published in 1764; and, finally, the Reviewer's assertion that 'it is quite possible and probable that the sale took place in 1765,' is thus shown to be 'a monstrous blunder.'"

Review.—"The very page which contains this monstrous blunder, contains another blunder, if possible, more monstrous still. Sir Joseph Mawbey, a foolish member of Parliament, at whose speeches and whose pig-styes the wits of Brookes's were, fifty years ago, in the habit of laughing most unmercifully, stated, on the authority of Garrick, that Johnson, while sitting in a coffee-house at Oxford, about the time of his doctor's degree, used some contemptuous expressions respecting Home's play, and Macpherson's 'Ossian.' 'Many men,' he said, 'many women, and many children, might have written 'Douglas.' Mr. Croker conceives that he has detected an inaccuracy, and glories over poor Sir Joseph, in a most characteristic manner. 'I have quoted this anecdote solely with the view of showing to how little credit hearsay anecdotes are in general entitled. Here is a story published by Sir Joseph Mawbey, a member of the House of Commons, and a person every way worthy

of credit, who says he had it from Garrick. Now mark:—Johnson's visit to Oxford, about the time of his doctor's degree, was in 1754, the first time he had been there since he left the university. But 'Douglas' was not acted till 1756, and 'Ossian' not published till 1760. All, therefore, that is new in Sir Joseph Mawbey's story is false.' Assuredly we need not go far to find ample proof that a member of the House of Commons may commit a very gross error. Now mark, say we, in the language of Mr. Croker. The fact is, that Johnson took his *Master's* degree in 1754, and his *Doctor's* degree in 1775. In the spring of 1776 he paid a visit to Oxford, and at this visit a conversation respecting the works of Home and Macpherson might have taken place, and, in all probability, did take place. The only real objection to the story Mr. Croker has missed. Boswell states, apparently on the best authority, that as early at least as the year 1763, Johnson, in conversation with Blair, used the same expressions respecting 'Ossian' which Sir Joseph represents him as having used respecting 'Douglas.' Sir Joseph, or Garrick, confounded, we suspect, the two stories. But their error is venial, compared with that of Mr. Croker."

Answer.—"Now, this is a tissue of misrepresentation. The words 'about the time of his doctor's degree,' which the Reviewer attributes to Mr. Croker, are Sir Joseph Mawbey's own, and distinguished by Mr. Croker with marks of quotation (*omitted by the Reviewer*) to call the reader's attention to the mistake, which Mr. Croker supposes Sir Joseph to have made as to the date of the anecdote. But, says the Reviewer, 'Mr. Croker has missed the only real objection to the story, namely, that Johnson had used, as early as 1763, respecting 'Ossian,' the same expressions which Sir Joseph represents him as having used respecting 'Douglas.' This is really too bad—the Reviewer says that Mr. Croker has missed, because he himself has chosen to suppress! Mr. Croker's note distinctly states the very fact which he is accused of missing! 'Every one knows,' says Mr. Croker, 'that Dr. Johnson said of 'Ossian' that "many men, many women, and many children, might have written it;" and Mr. Croker concludes by inferring exactly what the Reviewer himself does, that Sir Joseph Mawbey was inaccurate in thus applying to Douglas what had been really said of Ossian.'—But the Reviewer, in addition to suppressing Mr. Croker's statement, blunders his own facts; for he tells us, that Johnson's visit to Oxford, about the time of his doctor's degree, was 'in the spring of 1776.' I beg to inform him it was in the latter end of May, 1775. (See Boswell, v. iii. p. 254.) The matter is of no moment at all, but shews, that the Reviewer falls into the very inaccuracies, for which he arraigns Mr. Croker, and which he politely calls in this very instance, 'scandalous.'"

Review.—"Boswell has preserved a poor epigram by Johnson, inscribed 'ad Lauram paritum.' Mr. Croker censures the poet for applying the word *puella* to a lady in Laura's situation, and for talking of the beauty of Lucina. 'Lucina,' he says, 'was never famed for her beauty.' If Sir Robert Peel had seen this note, he possibly would again have refuted Mr. Croker's criticisms by an appeal to Horace. In the secular ode, Lucina is used as one of the names of Diana, and the beauty of Diana is extolled by all the most orthodox doctors of ancient mythology, from Homer in his *Odyssey*, to Claudian, in his *Rape of Proserpine*. In another ode, Horace describes Diana as the goddess who assists the 'laborantes utero puellas.'"

Answer.—"Euge! by this rule the Reviewer would prove that Hecate was famed for her beauty, for 'Hecate is one of the names of Diana, and the beauty of Diana,' and, consequently, of Hecate,—'is extolled by all the most orthodox doctors of heathen mythology.' Mr. Croker does not, as the Reviewer says he does, censure the poet for the application of the word *puella* to a lady in Laura's situation; but he says, that the designation in the first line—which was proposed as a *thesis*—of the lady as *pulcherrima puella*, would lead us to expect anything rather than the turn which the latter lines of the epigram take, of representing her as about to lie in. It needs not the authority either of Horace or the Reviewer to prove that '*puella*' will sometimes be found '*laborantes utero*.' But it will take more than the autho-

riety of the Reviewer to persuade me, that Mr. Croker was wrong in saying that it seems a very strange mode of complimenting an English beauty."

So far Mr. Murray's Answer to Mr. Macaulay follows the *Blackwood* critic, doing battle behind his shield. But at this point another hand (we presume) takes up the tale, and continues in the same amusing and conclusive style.—

Review.—"Johnson found in the library of a French lady, whom he visited during his short visit to Paris, some works which he regarded with great disdain. 'I looked,' says he, 'into the books in the lady's closet, and in contempt, showed them to Mr. Thrale. Prince Titus—Bibliothèque des Fées—and other books.'—'The History of Prince Titus,' observes Mr. Croker, 'was said to be the autobiography of Frederick Prince of Wales, but was probably written by Ralph his secretary.' A more absurd note never was penned. The History of Prince Titus, to which Mr. Croker refers, whether written by Prince Frederick, or by Ralph, was certainly never published. If Mr. Croker had taken the trouble to read with attention the very passage in Park's Royal and Noble Authors, which he cites as his authority, he would have seen that the manuscript was given up to the Government. Even if this memoir had been printed, it was not very likely to find its way into a French lady's book-case. And would any man in his senses speak contemptuously of a French lady, for having in her possession an English work, so curious and interesting as a 'Life of Prince Frederick,' whether written by himself, or by a confidential secretary, must have been? The history at which Johnson laughed, was a very proper companion to the 'Bibliothèque des Fées'—a fairy tale about good Prince Titus, and haughty Prince Violent. Mr. Croker may find it in the 'Magasin des Enfants,' the first French book which the little girls of England read to their governesses."

Answer.—"Here is a pretty round assertion of a matter of fact. 'The history of Prince Titus, whether written by Prince Frederick or Ralph, was certainly never published!' Now, unfortunately for this learned Reviewer, we have at this moment on our table the 'Histoire du Prince Titus, A(llegorie) R(oyale), Paris chez la Veuve Oissot, Quai de Conti à la Croix d'Or.' And not only was it thus published in Paris, but it was translated into English, and republished in London, under the title of 'The History of Prince Titus, a Royal Allegory, translated by a Lady.' What say you to that, Mr. Reviewer? Is not this, to say the least of it, a 'scandalous inaccuracy, and is not he who falls into such a mistake as this, entitled to no confidence whatever?' But 'if it had been printed, it was not likely to have found its way into the French lady's book-case.' Why not?—it was written in French, printed in Paris, a very neat little volume, and is, moreover, just such a piece of fashionable secret history as would be sure to 'find its way to a French lady's book-case.' But the real fairy tale would have been 'a very proper companion to the Bibliothèque des Fées.' Indeed! Pray, has the Reviewer, then, ever seen that fairy tale in a separate volume? He seems to imply that it has been so published; and yet in the next sentence he tells us it is to be found in the *Magasin des Enfants*. But even here he is mistaken. The old fairy tale of 'Prince Titus' is not to be found in the 'Magasin des Enfants'; but a *refaciamento* of it is, and Madame de Beaumont was even blamed by some critics for having spoilt the old story by her modern version. We have no doubt in the world that Mr. Croker is quite right that the *Royal Allegory* of 'Prince Titus' (the only volume with that title which we ever heard of) was on the lady's table, perhaps laid there purposely, in the expectation that her English visitors would think it a literary curiosity, which, indeed, it has proved to be; for Dr. Johnson seems not to have known what it was, and the Edinburgh Reviewer had never seen it, and, even now, so obstinately disbelieves the fact, that he ungratefully calls his informant very hard names. We add, as a point of literary history connected with this curious little volume, that it is possible that Ralph may have been preparing a continuation of it, which has been suppressed; but it is hardly possible that he could have had any share

in the composition of the original volume, which was written before Ralph was in the Prince's confidence."

Review.—"Mr. Croker has favoured us with some Greek of his own. 'At the altar,' says Dr. Johnson, 'I recommended my $\theta. \phi.$.'—These letters," says the editor, "(which Dr. Strahan seems not to have understood), probably mean *θηητοὶ φίλοι*—departed friends." Johnson was not a first-rate Greek scholar; but he knew more Greek than most boys when they leave school; and no schoolboy could venture to use the word *θηητοὶ* in the sense which Mr. Croker ascribes to it without imminent danger of a flogging."

Answer.—"The question is not here about classical Greek, but what Johnson meant by the *cypher* $\theta. \phi.$ Mr. Croker's solution is not only ingenious, but, we think, absolutely certain: it means 'departed friends,' beyond all doubt. See, in Dr. Strahan's book, under 'Easter Sunday, 1781,' an instance of the same kind:—'I commended (*in prayer*) my θ friends.' The Reviewer, with notable caution, omits to tell us which of the derivatives of *θανάτος* and *θησσω* he would have chosen; but we think with Mr. Croker that none was more likely to have occurred to Johnson's mind than *θηητοὶ*, because it is good Greek, and is moreover a word which we find him quoting on another occasion, in which he deprecates the loss of a friend. Good Greek, we say, in defiance of the menaced flogging; for we have authority that we suppose even the Reviewer may bow to. What does the Reviewer think of the well-known passage in the *Supplies* of Euripides, cited even in Hederic?—

Βῆθι, καὶ ἀντίσταν—

Τέκνων τε θνητῶν κόμισαι ὄμμας.—v. 275.

where *Τέκνων θνητῶν* is used in the same sense as *Τέκνων θανόντων*, v. 12 and 85; *Τέκνων φθιμένων*, v. 60; and *Τέκνων καθθανόντων*, v. 103! Suppose it had been—*φίλων τε θνητῶν*. The Edinburgh Reviewer seems inclined to revive his old reputation for Greek! He thought he was safely sneering at Mr. Croker, and he unexpectedly finds himself correcting Euripides."

Review.—"Mr. Croker has also given us a specimen of his skill in translating Latin. Johnson wrote a note in which he consulted his friend Dr. Lawrence, on the propriety of losing some blood. The note contains these words:—'*Si per te licet, imperatur nuncio Holderum ad me deducere.*' Johnson should rather have written '*imperatum est.*' But the meaning of the words is perfectly clear. 'If you say yes, the messenger has orders to bring Holder to me.' Mr. Croker translates the words as follows: 'If you consent, pray tell the messenger to bring Holder to me.' If Mr. Croker is resolved to write on points of classical learning, we would advise him to begin by giving an hour every morning to our old friend Corderius."

Answer.—"This is excellent! The Reviewer tells us that Johnson's Latin is incorrect, and then blames Mr. Croker for not having correctly translated that which the Reviewer thinks himself obliged to alter, in order to make it intelligible. Mr. Croker probably saw, as well as the Reviewer, that the phrase was inaccurate; but, instead of clumsily changing *imperatur* into *imperatum est*, (which, with all deference to the Reviewer, is much worse than the original,) he naturally supposes that *imperatur*, the indicative mood, is merely the transcriber's error of a single letter, for either the imperative or the conditional moods, and translates it accordingly, without thinking it necessary to blazon the exploit in a long explanation,—

How A's deposed, and E with pomp restored.

We venture to surmise, that if Johnson's original note be in existence, it will be found that he wrote the word as Mr. Croker has translated it, and has therefore not deserved the ignominy of having his Latin corrected by an Edinburgh Reviewer; though, to be sure, that is no great insult, seeing that these omniscients appear inclined to correct the Greek of Euripides."

The whole answer is conceived in the trenchant style so much admired a few years ago, in which no quarter was given or accepted by political opponents or literary rivals.

The History of Greece under Othoman and Venetian Domination. By George Finlay, LL.D. Blackwood & Sons.

IN the present volume, Dr. Finlay, taking up the history of the modern Greeks at the point where his previous volumes had left it,—namely, at the Conquest of Constantinople by the Ottoman Turks in 1453,—carries it on to the year 1821, at which time the movement was commencing which emancipated the Greeks of the Morea and of Greece proper from the Mohammedan yoke altogether, and formed the existing kingdom of modern Greece. Although the whole history of the Greek race, from the era of the extinction of their ancient glory and independence, is a theme that has been comparatively little attended to by English writers, so that, by his previous books, Mr. Finlay has almost taken possession of it as his own,—yet no portion of this history already traversed by Mr. Finlay required elucidation so much as that which the present volume embraces. Of the Greeks as they were under the Romans till the time of the Roman emperors, we learn much from the historians of the Roman Empire, both ancient and modern; the fate of the Greeks during the revolutions of the Middle Ages, or from the time of the Roman Emperors to the Conquest of Constantinople in 1453, is involved in the vast work of Gibbon; but at this last point Gibbon leaves us, and such information as we might desire respecting the Greeks from that date to the partial restoration of their independence thirty years ago, we have had to gather hitherto mainly from the historians of the Ottoman Empire. The purpose of Dr. Finlay's present volume is to concentrate that information by assuming the point of view of the Greeks rather than that of the Turks.

He has evidently felt it to be a hard task. Despairing, as it would seem, of collecting the scattered facts relating to the life and activity of the Greeks since they were merged in the Ottoman Empire into one story capable of being told continuously and chronologically, he has accomplished his purpose by a series of dissertations, if they may be so called, in which the facts are amassed less in the order of time than in that of expository relation. Thus, the volume consists of five chapters: three of these take their start from the same year, 1453—the first presenting a general view of "the Political and Military Organization of the Ottoman Empire" during its most flourishing period, or from 1453 to 1684; the second giving an account of the "Naval Conquests of the Ottomans in Greece" during the same period; and the third describing the "Social Condition of the Greeks" during that period also;—after which there follow two chapters, more directly narrative, though still partly disquisitional, conducting the history of the Greeks from 1684 to 1718, and from 1718 to 1821 respectively.

It is partly on account of this inherent intractability of the subject that the chief use of the present volume, with all its merits, lies in the fact that it presents to us in a moderate compass the dates, names, and events of the modern Greeks from 1453 to 1821, thus saving us the trouble, should we have occasion to acquaint ourselves with any portion of that history, of gathering the information piecemeal from encyclopædias and the like; in addition to which, Dr. Finlay's long residence in Greece enables him to infuse into his account not only observations of his own, but also a certainty and impressiveness of opinion not to be found in mere compilations. We do not know that we have ever before met with so distinct an exposition as Dr. Finlay gives of that singular institution which formed so important a feature

in the system of the Ottoman Empire, and which, according to Dr. Finlay, was for a long time its real strength and the true cause of its endurance:—the Tribute of children to be trained for the service of the empire.—

"The history of this tax is worthy of attention. The Mohammedan law authorizes, or rather commands, every Mussulman to educate all unbelieving children who may have legally fallen under his power as true believers, but it strictly prohibits the forced conversion of any who have attained the age of puberty. The Koran also gives one-fifth of the booty taken in war to the sovereign. The Seljouk sultans had generally either sold their share of the spoil, commuted it for a payment in money, or else filled their palaces with concubines and pages, in virtue of this privilege. The project of converting this claim into a means of strengthening the executive power was due to Orkhan [1325–1359], and its organization as the source of recruiting the regular army to Murad I. [1359–1389], as we have already mentioned. Several sovereigns had previously formed armies of purchased slaves, in order to secure the command over a military force more obedient and susceptible of stricter discipline than the native militia of their dominions. In the sixth century, Tiberius II., Emperor of the East, when he wished to restore the discipline of the Roman armies, formed a corps of fifteen thousand heathen slaves, whom he purchased and drilled to serve as the nucleus of a standing army unconnected with the feelings of the people, and untainted with the licence of the native soldiers. But this attempt to introduce slavery as an element of military power in Christian society failed. The system was adopted with more success by the caliphs of Bagdad and the sultans of Cairo. The Turkish guards of the Abbassids, and the Circassian slaves of the Mamlouk kings, were the best troops among the Mohammedans for several ages. It is true, they soon proved more dangerous to their sovereigns than the national militia: nevertheless, it was reserved for the Ottoman sultans to found an empire on the strength of a subject-population and the votaries of a hostile religion. The plan required a constant supply of recruits of the early age which admitted of compulsory conversion to Islam. The tribute of Greek children being once established, officers of the sultan visited the districts on which it was imposed, every fourth year, for the purpose of collecting that proportion of the fifth of the male children who had attained the requisite age. All the little Greeks of the village, between the ages of six and nine, were mustered by the *protogeros*, or head man of the place, in presence of the priest, and the healthiest, strongest, and most intelligent of the number were torn from their parents, to be educated as the slaves of the Porte. It is not for history to attempt a description of the agony of fathers, nor to count the broken hearts of mothers caused by this unparalleled tax. The children were carried to Constantinople, where they were placed in four great colleges, to receive the training and instruction necessary to fit them for the part they were afterwards to perform in life. Those who were found least fitted for the public service were placed in the families of Ottoman landed proprietors in Bithynia; those of inferior capacity were employed as slaves in the serai, as gardeners and guards of the outer courts of the palaces. But the greater number were trained and disciplined as soldiers, and drafted into the corps of janissaries and sipahis of the regular cavalry; while those who displayed the most ability, who promised to become men of the pen as well as of the sword, were selected to receive a better education, and destined for the highest offices in the administration. Never was a more perfect instrument of despotism created by the hand of man. Affection and interest alike bound the tribute-children to the personal service of the sultan; no ties of affection, and no prejudices of rank or of race, connected them with the feudal landed-interest, nor with the oppressed subjects of the empire. They were as ready to strike down the proudest descendant of the Seljouk emirs, or the Arab who boasted of his purity of blood, as they were to go forth to plunder the Christian enemies of the sultan, and extend the domain of Mohammedanism. The Turks formed a dominant race in the Ottoman Empire, but the

tribute-children were a dominant class even among the Turks. Mankind has never witnessed a similar instance of such wise combinations applied to such bad ends, and depraved by such systematic iniquity."

The volume contains much information of this kind relating to all the topics connected with the period of Greek history of which it treats:—the state of the Greek church and clergy under the Ottomans,—the wars between the Ottomans and the Venetians,—the relations of the Ottoman Empire, and of the Greeks as the subjects of the powers of Catholic Europe,—the course of the Russian intrigues among the Greeks with a view to the disintegration of the Turkish dominion,—the rise of modern Greek literature, and with it of the new spirit of Greek nationality. The style, as in Dr. Finlay's previous volumes, is plain, substantial, and careful.

MINOR MINSTRELS.

The Emperor's Vigil, and the Waves and the War. By Ernest Jones. (Routledge & Co.)—Mr. Ernest Jones writes too fast, and throws off books as quickly as Birmingham machines do steel pens. The only surprise is, that the article is so good and strong with all the rapidity. We are quite sure Mr. Jones can write a poem that deserves to last,—but he must study, and think, and have rather large intervals of rest. In his present preface the author celebrates the deeds of the Baltic fleet,—intending in his next book to pass on to Crimean exploits. In conclusion, he thanks his reviewers in a very honest and frank spirit for the impartiality with which they have separated the poet from the politician. Though disposed to be rhetorical, Mr. Jones often condenses much into one line, as in the following:—

The steam-ship, like a war-horse, came trampling down the brine.

—And again, in the vision of the Caucasus:—

Far away, in icy armour,
Caucasus gigantic stands,
With the deluge at his footsteps,
And the lightning in his hands.

In all Mr. Jones writes there is a breadth of feeling which is coupled with powers of minute painting and sustained declamation. He is thoroughly in earnest, and convinces you that he is so: he does not grind away with strong torpid force like a street musician, nor shout out stale tropes and measured sentences like a hired mountebank in the market-place. But you see his brow swell out with full veins, and his lip tremble, and his eye sparkle, as the scene he describes rises before him. His conventionalisms are not of the "puling brook" school, but rather savour of Shelley's democracy. He pictures a world ruled by ferocious kings and cruel priests,—talks much of knouts, chains, and dungeons,—and looks upon thrones as raised upon the graves of martyrs. Let Mr. Jones remove his poetry further from the malaria of politics, and let him employ his poetical mind in a more sunny and purer region of fancy and imagination. 'The Emperor's Vigil,' the best poem, is too long to extract; but the 'Sailing of the Fleet' is not wanting in measured and restrained power.—

He would not let them rest
On the waters of the West,
Where they slumbered in their bays—those sons of Eng-
land's might—
With their great white shadowy shrouds
Folded calm as brooding clouds,
Dreaming of old victories in the drowsy summer-light.
He would not let them rest,
Those war-ships of the West,
The Czar of sullen Muscovy in drunkenness of pride;
And they gather now and throng,
The beautiful and strong,
Like a fairy pageant floating for a pastime on the tide.
They toy and they play
With the waters on their way;
They tack and they veer, as if in sport upon the sea;
But evermore they write
In those furrows creamy-white,
Our messages of ruin to thine empire and to thee.

The gentle ocean laughed
To the countless pleasure-craft,
That with music and with joyousness came dancing in
delight;

And, as though 'twere a caress,
Round the mighty ships they press,
As you cheer a gallant charger ere it rushes to the fight.

But a sudden change was wrought,
For the mass a signal caught,
And feverish expectation hung lead-like on each breath;
Deep silence sank around,
And the crowds stood wonder-bound,
Till they scarcely felt the ocean pulsing heavily beneath.

Lady Jane Grey, and other Poems. By E. R. Bailey. 2 vols. (Tenby, Mason.)—There is no promise in these volumes. Admiration for the character of Lady Jane Grey has led our authoress to write 130 pages of a rhymed play to her memory;—130 pages which no memory could or would retain:—too dull to be amusing, too respectable to deserve satire.

Peace in War. In Memoriam L. R. (Cambridge, Macmillan & Co.)—This is a volume of very unequal elegiac verses, chiefly suggested by the war. Sometimes the author gives us such stuff as this:—

Hark to the cry of the land!
It breaks on us near and far,
First faintly, then loud and grand;
It is war—it is war—it is war.

—Compare with this:—

When Christmas bells shall ring
Across the lifeless snow,
We too will gladly sing
The joy above the woe;
No storm of earth shall keep afar
The peace that cannot turn to war.
And, when through budding trees
Bilbe the Easter chimes shall sound,
Tossed on the quickening breeze
In waves of throbbing sound,
We will not scorn the bliss of spring
For all our autumn mourning;

But cherish, as we may,
The living fire that burns
In growth and in decay,
In light and shade by turns;
And greet through veils of sunlit tears
The perfect sum of deathless years.

As the work is apparently written by two poets, it is possible the good may belong to one hand and the bad to another.

Hymns for the Church of England. (Leslie.)—*Psalmody for Christian Seasons.* Selected from the Cleveland Psalter. (J. H. Parker.)—Hymns do not rank very high as poetry. They are generally fine and flimsy, or literal and doggerel. Both these books are improvements on the rule, but still want something more to render them equal to the rough but hearty piety of the old Scotch psalms, with their "Dundees" and "Aberdeens," sung so often on heathered hills and in the brambles beside streams, where the shock of the waterfall would drown the sound of the voices.—*Darby and Joan: a Poem.* By Euphony. Part I. (Saunders & Otley.)—One of the most childish bits of beadle's rhyming we ever met with.—*An Ode on the Death of the Earl of Belfast.* By D. F. McCarthy.—A well written dirge, but only adapted for private circulation.—*Les Chercheurs d'Or au XIXe Siècle.* By Madame Stéphanie Fraissinet.—This is a rather tardy and indignant tirade against the gold-diggers.

Mexico and its Religion; with Incidents of Travel in that Country during Parts of the Years 1851, 52, 53, 54; and Historical Notices of Events connected with Places visited. By Robert A. Wilson. With Illustrations. New York, Harper Brothers; London, Low & Co.

MANY Americans have the same "ulterior view" concerning Mexico that others have concerning Cuba. Their evidence, consequently, must be taken with some reserve. They are interested in misrepresenting the government and the nation. Mr. Wilson avows no

general annexationist theories, but it is clear that he thinks the Mexican Government corrupt and the Mexican nation helpless. Nor, in spite of his bias, can we accuse him of much exaggeration. He only intensifies the truth, and so far may be said to weaken its effect. Mexico, described by a more candid writer, would present aspects of religious degradation and social decay even less tolerable than we find suggested in Mr. Wilson's book. Moreover, Mr. Wilson is a resolute sceptic, who delights in brushing out the bright colours of history. He thinks that Cortez lied, and that nearly all his successors have been deluded. Possibly so, but not to the extent affirmed by this writer, whose criticism is more positive than conclusive. That which is true in one man's eye is not true in another's; and if Mr. Wilson can see in the Mound of Cholula nothing more than a vulgar pile of earth, in the lakes of Mexico no more than evaporating ponds, and in the floating gardens of the capital no more than banks of mud, that is the fault of his imagination, and proves little against his predecessors. It is the old story. Exaggeration on one side produces exaggeration on another.

Before we allow Mr. Wilson to give a reason for his want of historical faith, we will quote a story told by the artist who has, with some spirit, illustrated his volume. He accompanied the author on his journey.—

"Four years ago, while I was making a pedestrian journey over this road, I seated myself, weak and hungry, upon a stone by the roadside, not a little tired of life and evil fortune. The remains of the yellow fever were still upon me, and only a single dollar burdened my pocket; for I did not learn, until too late, how poor a place for an artist from abroad is this country, where the San Carlos is creating the native article by scores. I had not sat long in my gloomy mood before I had company enough; for as I looked up I saw, trooping down the side of the hill, a band of men, who I thought would soon put an end to my troubles. I took the thing coolly, for I cared little for the result; and had I cared, there was no helping it now. So I patiently waited their arrival. To the questions of the only one who could talk English I answered briefly, as I supposed they would soon end my troubles. When I told him that I cared little if he did kill me, the whole party laughed uproariously. The leader now came up, and having searched me, found my story to be true. I then drew an outline of a picture with my pencil, and gave it to him. This so pleased him that he wrote me a memorandum, and with verbal directions as to the way I was to go if I wished for lodgings for the night, he bade me adieu, and the party disappeared up the side of the woody hill, and I set out on my journey."

Of course Cortez wrote an extravagant description of Cholula,—such a description as that of the old Catholic traveller who, standing on a hill in Japan, declared that he "counted" on the plain around "innumerable" villages, "not one containing less than 150,000 inhabitants." His 40,000 houses and 800 mosques were mere hyperboles. But many writers have softened down the picture; and it did not need Mr. Wilson's acumen to tame our fancies by the following corrective sketch:—

"The spot on which I stand, instead of being what it has often been represented to be, is but a shapeless mass of earth 205 feet high, occupying a village square of 1,310 feet. It is sufficiently wasted by time to give full scope to the imagination to fill out or restore it to almost any form. One hundred years ago, some rich citizen constructed steps up its side, and protected the sides of his steps from falling earth by walls of adobe, or mudbrick; and on the west side some adobe buttresses have been placed to keep the loose earth out of the village street. This is all of man's labour that is visible, except the work of the Indians in shaving away the hill which constitutes this pyramid. As for the great city of Cholula, it never had an existence; for if there had been

only three hundred years ago such a city here, composed of 40,000 houses, with 400 towers, besides the 400 mosques, then some vestige or fragment of a fallen wall or a ruined tower would still be visible. But I searched in vain for the slightest evidence of former magnificence, and was driven to the unwelcome conclusion that the whole city was fabricated out of some miserable Indian village, inferior, perhaps, to the present town of one-story, whitewashed mud huts."

Let Mr. Wilson stand on the site of Syracuse, and count the remains. He should know what Stephens and Catherwood have seen, what has been illustrated in numerous books, what Humboldt has reduced to demonstration; and should not be so bold as to obliterate a city because it was not so grand as Cortez pretended. He has himself supplied a description of the materials with which the Indians build; and these, with the dampness of the climate, would account for any degree of decay.—

"It was easy to build an Indian city that would present a most imposing appearance, for the climate was well fitted for drying mud thoroughly. Besides, there was an inexhaustible supply of pumice-stone (*tepetate*), and an exceedingly soft, grey quarry stone, for caps and lintels, with an excellent quality of cement, and material for '*frasco* painting' of the walls, abundant and cheap. All these articles are combined in the building of the modern city, and give it its present appearance of elegance and great durability. But in the old city, one-story palaces of dried mud, plastered and frescoed, with large interior courts like that I have described at Tezuczo, must have been among the most imposing structures. If *tepetate* was employed in the construction of the royal palaces, it would not have added materially to the weight resting upon the earthy foundations; for when the water in the ditches occupied half the street, the foundations must have been so much softer than at present, that structures of the lightest material only could be borne."

Why should Cortez, who was not a critic, be maligned for brightening the valley of Mexico in his letters to Spain when Mr. Wilson, who picks the bones of criticism, writes thus?—

"The aspect of the valley was all that my fancy had painted it. The sun was in the right quarter to produce the greatest possible effect. The unnumbered pools of surface-water that abound in the valley appeared at that distance like so many lakelets supplied by crystal fountains, as each one reflected the bright sun from its mirror-like surface; these all were inclosed in the richest setting of nature's green."

But he attacks the idea of lakes and floating islands, and after apologizing, as the headman of the Tower used to apologize to the condemned, proceeds to explode the notion that gardens ever "floated." His reasoning on this point comes to nothing,—inasmuch as, in a sense, gardens *do* float in Kashmir and in China quite as much as they "hung" in Persia. Mr. Wilson's argument reminds us of Heylin, the old cosmographer, who undertook to expose the "huge and monstrous lies" of travellers in the East. First, he said, it had been fabled that in the Molucca Sea "there are stones that grow and increase like fish, and yield the best lime,"—an obvious reference to coral, of which lime is at this time made. Secondly, he ridicules the accounts of shells "so large that children might be christened in them,"—whereas the Taclabo, or great Philippine oyster, otherwise known as the Kimá cockle, often measures three feet in diameter, and is actually used as a font in the Philippine churches. So with Mr. Wilson. He has no imagination, and cannot understand imaginative descriptions. If a Canara Indian told him that he had seen hailstones "as big as bugs," he would quote Las Casas' words about "lying historians,"—not knowing that the Indian only meant that the hailstones were larger than usual! On the

subject of the great Conquistador and his causeways, he observes, "I propose to be liberal, and will therefore admit that they might have been twelve feet in width, as broad as the tow-path of the Erie Canal." In the same style of depreciation, his account of Mexico is generally written. Many testimonies concur, however, to show that the country has been abased by mal-administration, by the swarming of the priesthood, by civil feuds, and fruitless revolutions. He draws, nevertheless, a favourable portrait of Santa Anna.—

"We may sum up the politico-military life of Santa Anna by saying that he has been engaged in eight *pronunciamientos*. Five of these have been made by himself; three by others, for his benefit. Twice he has been chosen President by the Federal party of the Federal Republic of Mexico. Three times he has been made President by the Central, or Ecclesiastical party. He has been twice banished from Mexico, and each time recalled again and placed at the head of affairs. He has twice been taken prisoner, when his captors held long consultations upon the propriety of putting him to death. He has, in turn, been the candidate of all parties, and has served all parties faithfully in turn, but most faithfully of all he has served himself. Actively engaged through life as a politician and a soldier, he has found time to re-adjust the whole complicated system of Mexican laws, and, in a series of volumes of autocratic decrees, he has drawn from that chaotic mass a new system of jurisprudence, that will stand as a monument of his genius as long as the Mexican nation shall continue."

The policy of America with respect to Mexico is stated frankly, epigrammatically,—perhaps faithfully.—

"Once in ten years she requires a portion of the wild land nominally belonging to Mexico, and once in ten years she must take it."

All conquering governments justify their aggressions by asserting that they "require the land."

NEW NOVELS.

The Heirs of Blackbridge Manor. By Diana Butler. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)—This is the author's first appearance in print,—at least under this name, and we congratulate our readers on the acquisition. The book is well written, and shows good training in English scholarship. The style is vigorous and racy, with a vein of quaint original humour running through it, which makes it pleasant to read, in spite of the story being somewhat hard to follow. There is no straining after effect: the charm of the book is, that it is fresh and natural. The characters are most of them well drawn. "Mrs. Honoria Gubbins, the great landed proprietor," is our favourite. Dolly Harley we like the least, although it has been the most elaborated. The story itself, however, is not so good as a whole as the excellence of the details might give reason to expect:—for these are not well amalgamated. The interest is intended to turn upon the shadow of illegitimacy which hangs over the hero, and which exercises more or less a baleful influence over all the characters in the story; but there are too many individuals jostling each other on the stage at once,—no reader can possibly keep the conflicting interests in mind; the effect is, consequently, vague and confused. There is a want of unity in the action of the drama; the unravelling of the guilty mystery is not worked out with sufficient breadth: it makes little or no impression on the reader, although it is intended to be the main fact in the whole story. The subsequent catastrophe shows much power in the author; but the effectiveness of the incident is frittered away by frivolous details, which, coming at such a moment, are felt by the reader to be impertinent. The great fault in the book is the absence of all perspective: every incident is made of equal size and importance; nor is the plot skilfully laid or developed. The author can remedy these faults whenever she pleases. Diana Butler possesses the great element of success, which contains all the minor ones—she has power, and has

only to learn how to use it to the best advantage. The descriptions of English country life amongst the middle and higher ranks are touched in with a free hand, bespeaking a knowledge of the society and things described.

The Old Grey Church. By the Author of 'Trevelyan.' 3 vols. (Bentley.)—'The Old Grey Church,' for those who like religious novels, is one of the best of its class: for ourselves, we prefer it to any we have seen by the same authoress. It is written in a gentle, touching style, which, if not very forcible, has a peculiar charm of its own. It is written in the *inverse* ratio to most novels:—the first volume being somewhat heavy, in the second the story moves more briskly, and the third volume is extremely interesting. The authoress might have made more of the character of Lucy: the circumstances following upon the breaking-up of the family, and the trial of her father, offered resources that might have been worked out with great advantage; but notwithstanding all that *might* have been, and *is not*, those of our readers who are looking out for an unexceptional novel for family reading cannot do better than send for 'The Old Grey Church.'

Leonora. By the Hon. Mrs. Maberly. 3 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)—The authoress tells us, in a Preface, that "the character of 'Leonora' is taken from real life, and that the story is therefore a biography, and not a romance"; and that "all the principal events, instead of being exaggerated, are considerably softened down." 'Leonora' is the history of a bold, bad, beautiful woman, who having lost her character, plunges into crime to preserve her reputation. In the hands of a master it might have been made into a powerful story, but Mrs. Maberly cannot lay hold of human nature with any grasp at all:—she only meddles with it. The book is written in a weak flaccid style, and with an air of sentimental slipshod virtue that is extremely unpleasant to readers in the possession of health and common sense. The book has, moreover, the sin of vulgarity,—not the mere surface vulgarity of ignorance or mistake in the usages of polite society, but innate ingrained vulgarity beyond the power of any amount of conventional refinement to redeem.

Elsie Seymour; or, the Contrast. By A. W. Wagon. 3 vols. (Newby.)—Of course heroes and heroines in their mortal state walking about the world talk prose like their neighbours, except on great occasions; but it is too bad to write down all the words they say at long and at large, and to print them under the pretence of a novel, which, in addition to all its other sins, contains close upon five hundred pages in a volume. It is an imposition, which readers have a right to resent,—especially as most readers will think that their own daily domestic talk is just as good and amusing as anything written here. The story begins with the heroines when they are young ladies, and they talk their way up to maturity without doing anything in particular. Elsie Seymour, who is sketched in the character of Miss Nightingale, is intended, we presume, to show that it is better and happier for women to be commonplace, and only half informed in mind and morals. Elsie Seymour is lighted by the man she loves for a very insipid young woman, and has not by any means the success that is the theatrical property of the leading character in a novel or a drama. We protest against the gross indelicacy of travestying the character and position of a living individual to serve the purpose of a novel; and Miss Nightingale has the additional cause of complaint that she has been brought into a remarkably stupid one.

Glenmorven; or, Nedley Rectory: a Tale. By H. T. Mullis. (Hope & Co.)—The greater part of this book is good and sensible, the story is interesting, and the character of Glenmorven is extremely well traced. Parents and children will both find their account in reading the story. We entirely protest, however, against the Italian nonsense at the end; it spoils the truthfulness and naturalness of the whole story; and, as a piece of literary workmanship, it is a clumsy and ill-executed patch upon the original book.

Jerville: a Tale. By the Rev. H. S. M. Hubert, M.A. (Longman & Co.)—This is a small

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thin book, containing only 239 pages;—yet has the Rector of Santon contrived to introduce three sermons bodily with texts and divisions all complete. Hymns and sacred poetry are added in liberal measure, together with much conversation, or rather dialogues of didactic strain and very ponderous architecture. If this bill of fare does not tempt the reader, we despair; for our own personal verdict upon the book, founded on a conscientious attempt to read it, is—that bread of saw-dust and the bran stuffing of twenty lead pincushions, would be savoury and highly-seasoned diet in comparison. Jerville, who does duty as hero, is not a man of straw, but a man of wood; he never does anything the least wrong throughout the book, but is, on the contrary, oppressively good and sensible; his virtues are not rewarded, and we at least heartily acquiesce in that arrangement.

The Way Home. (Edinburgh, Greig & Son; London, Nisbet.)—This little book does not fall within the province of criticism. Not a reader of any description but must sympathize painfully with parents bereaved of their children in so fearful a manner. We well remember the accident—one of the most tragical and disgraceful in railway annals. There were many sufferers, but none who excited so much commiseration as the father and mother who lost two out of their three children by the event. The book before us is the history of those children, minutely detailing all the sayings and doings and events of their small lives. But with all the sympathy that every one who hears the story must feel for the parents, we must enter our protest against making a display of infant piety as it is written in this book; not only because its tendency is artificial and insincere, but it is absolutely painful to read of a small child, of four years old, who, upon some priests and Sisters of Charity entering the railway carriage in which he was travelling in France, "caught up his frock from the *soutane* which trailed under it, and eyed the black-hooded sisters with mistrust." The same child, when much younger, *groaned* when he heard Pío Nono mentioned, and declared "that the Pope was naughty." There is in our opinion a great want of judgment throughout the book.

Sibert's World: a Tale. By the Author of 'A Trap to Catch a Sunbeam,' &c. (Parker & Son.)—The 'Trap to Catch a Sunbeam' was charming, but 'Sibert's World' is not so successful. The story is at once flat and improbable, but not without touches of cleverness, which brighten it up. Of course, there is the usual proportion of good and sensible persons who set an example,—whilst there are a sufficient number of erring and foolish people to profit by it;—indeed, in tales pointed by a moral, it is quite wonderful to see how far a good example shines, and all the good that follows one appropriate piece of advice.

Shoepac Recollections: a Wayside Glimpse of American Life. By Walter March. (New York, Bunce & Brothers.)—Shoepacs are old-fashioned Canadian shoes—half shoes half moccasins; and the book with this title is an account of a family living at Detroit, a frontier town on the borders of Canada. It contains a picture of society in its transition state, between the old French *régime* and the modern American state of things. This might have been made both interesting and instructive; but the author has chosen to write a very meagre story, and pranked it out with an affected, conceited style, which effectually prevents the reader from understanding what it is all about. He seems, however, to be fully content with himself and his own performance.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Life of the Rev. Joseph Beaumont, M.D. By his Son, Joseph Beaumont, Esq. (Hamilton & Co.)—This volume will be found more generally interesting than many of its family, because the biographer of a good man and a popular pulpit orator has not felt it necessary to confine himself exclusively to the theological side of his subject. No attempt to sink the Methodist preacher (which, indeed, would have been unflattering and offensive) has been made by the son of Dr.

Beaumont; on the contrary, much is to be learned, which will be new to the public, concerning the peculiarities of Wesleyan Christianity and the trials of those who embrace its forms of dogma and discipline. Such "unfoldings" must always interest those who in shades of creed and diversities of interpretation recognize the determination of the human creature to think for himself, curiously mixed up with his desire to persuade or subdue other human creatures to think as he does. To many the picture of ministerial service here unconsciously revealed will seem anything rather than engaging. Perpetual excitement—constant homelessness—frequent struggles for independence and authority—yet necessary submission of the teacher to those whom he teaches, and by whose connivance he holds his pulpit,—such elements of endurance and trial as these will appear to all whose natures are contemplative as incompatible with many of the most precious relations betwixt priest and people. The sight of an excellent man hunted from place to place, and from settlement to settlement,—again and again involved in Church difficulties, to the meddling with which his sweet and liberal nature rendered him wholly averse,—and dying worn out, after a life of incessant bustle (for to such *must*, in the end, amount such a course of daily preaching), will seem to many the sight of a life in part wasted. The picture is well done, we repeat, because it is executed in no bitter or sectarian spirit. On the contrary, Mr. Beaumont seems as a son should to enjoy dwelling on the many talents and attributes of his father. The latter had a quick enjoyment for music among other arts. His preaching, too, showed a certain imaginative richness and harmony of period, which believers "in race" might deduce from his ancestor, the Beaumont, who joined with Fletcher in the Theatre, by which the associated wits and poets are so lovingly remembered. So far as his incessant hurries allowed him, Dr. Beaumont seems to have been alike affectionate, and judicious, and cheerful in the home-circle and in the education of his children. The book, in brief, has made a pleasant impression on us (as the study of a good man's life), and will furnish material for a character whenever "the characters of English preachers"—orthodox and dissenting—shall come to be written.

Castles near Kreuznach. By Miss Robertson. (Williams & Norgate.)—Here are half-a-dozen letters, not so much about the castles near Kreuznach, as things generally in that vicinity, castles included,—and legends thrown lightly in,—for the benefit and amusement of the lady to whom these letters were originally addressed, and are now, in a slight and collective form, dedicated. The legends, we are bound to say, are as dull and heavy as the castles, and the writer's style seems to have been affected by the matter on which it was employed. It is perilous, not to say presuming, to treat of these subjects when Victor Hugo's castles and legends,—whether existing in fact or reared by fancy,—are still vividly remembered. But these letters are, probably, only intended for circulation among friends;—they are, at all events, of no interest to the public generally.

Rambles round Nottingham. Parts I. to VI. (Simpkin & Marshall.)—These numbers are so many instalments of the two dozen to which the work is to extend. The subject is a good one, and, as far as we can judge, it has not fallen into inefficient hands. There are few districts in England on which an acute observer and a well-read man might find more to say; and, when the task of the present editor has been completed, we shall be glad, and better able than now, to pronounce as to the way in which he has achieved it. At present, there is promise of an useful and agreeable volume,—with room for improvement.

'Azûba; or, the Forsaken Land: a Description of a Recent Visit to Palestine. By the Rev. W. T. Ritchie. (Edinburgh, Johnstone & Hunter.)—In the shape of lectures to various congregations, the contents of this book are known to many readers in the North. The lectures have been re-cast; and the volume is one which, without containing anything very new or very striking, will be read with interest by those to whom the subject of Palestine

is not exceedingly familiar. Its chief merit lies in the earnestness of the author, whose very platitudes are rendered respectable by its tone of sincerity. As a book for young readers, it deserves to be commended; for to them a great portion of the volume will, probably, prove both new and interesting. Even for them, too, there will be "disillusions" in these pages; and, as grown-up travellers find that there is less beauty by Brade-meer's stream, and less voluptuousness in the Vale of Cashmere, than profane and imaginative poets have vouched for, so will young students discover in these pages that even in Sharon the mud is as abundant as the roses.

The Progress of Religious Ideas through Successive Ages. By L. Maria Child. 3 vols. (New York, Frances & Co.; London, Low & Co.)—The important subject which has here occupied the attention of Mrs. Child requires for its proper treatment a variety of high qualifications. Learning is essential before all things. Without it the author is in continual danger of being misled by imperfect translations, or by unacquaintance with works which are not translated, or by being carried away by the prejudices of others. A determined love of truth, a fearlessness in its statement, and a charity all-comprehensive and all-pervading are other requirements, without which it is little less than trifling to approach the consideration of such a theme. In the hands of a person properly gifted, how pre-eminently interesting to trace the gradual brightening of that light of truth, which, although even now dim, has for centuries gone on increasing in depth and brilliancy, overpowering and driving before it superstition after superstition, and shining more and more in evident advance towards the dawning of a perfect day! To trace the opening out of which the history of this gradually increasing light has sprung is the design of Mrs. Child's book. Of the qualifications to which we have alluded she possesses many, but she wants the first—the learning. By the use of translations and common books,—of which she gives a list, she has run through the long history of all religions from Hindooism to Mohammedanism, and no one can read her clever compilation and commentary without deriving profit. Probably, not the least part of the profit will arise from the way in which she comes occasionally full butt against some of our most ordinary and, as we deem them, most sacred opinions. Of course, she who can only judge of her subject at second hand is no authority. No one will relinquish an opinion simply because she attacks it,—although she may compel her readers to think, and to consider how far they are able to obey the injunction to be able to give a reason for the hope which is in them. We should not have advised Mrs. Child to deal with such a subject. But, regarding her book as an established fact, we are ready to bear testimony to the accuracy of her assertion that, whilst "walking directly through and over the opinions of the age, she has not done it sarcastically, as if she despised them"; she has "done it in a straightforward quiet way, as if," she says, "I were unconscious of their existence." Mrs. Child's principle is to consider all doctrines as upon a par. Fable, tradition, philosophical teaching and the doctrines of Judaism and Christianity are all simply so much teaching. "I have not," she says, "eulogized any doctrines as true, or stigmatized any as false. I have simply said, so it was argued, and thus it was decided." Whether that be the right way of treating such a subject we must leave our readers to judge for themselves.

The Heroes of History: Oliver Cromwell. By Dr. Hawks. (Low & Co.)—This poor compilation on Cromwell, at once weak and pretentious, comes to us from America. It is not worth its reception.

A Cyclopædia of Geography. By James Bryce. (Griffin & Co.)—Mr. Bryce has endeavoured to throw into one volume an enormous mass of information in descriptive and physical geography, so as to form "a new general gazetteer of the world and dictionary of pronunciation." Some of the information strikes us as rather stale; and the woodcuts, which are generally trumpery in style, appear to have been made for older service.

The Sea-Side Lesson Book, designed to convey to

the *Youthful Mind a knowledge of the Nature and Uses of the Common Things of the Sea Coast.* By H. G. Adams. (Groombridge & Sons.)—This Sea-side companion is just such a work as was wanted to make little people appreciate and understand the wonders of the mighty deep, with its fringe of sand and shingle, curious shells and pebbles, starfish and animals. Nor are the beautiful grasses and weeds which attract attention at the sea-shore forgotten. Reading such a little work, we begin to dream of lying on a beach listening to the music of the waves: that ceaseless music which seems to say—

Work on, work ever,
Faint not, faint never.

This 'Sea side Lesson Book' contains information about the sea, ships and boats, sailors and fishermen, fish and fishing, crustaceans and testaceous animals, sea-weeds and sea-birds; and it is all given in a pleasant and readable manner. Ariel is already anxious for August and Hastings.

Worlds not Realized. By Mrs. Alfred Gatty. (Bell & Daldy.)—This is another work suitable for the instruction of children. The dialogues are calculated to develop the reasoning powers of the young. There are interesting conversations about heart and head, reason and instinct, realities and fancies, sight and mystery, and many other topics amusing to the youthful mind which may have the effect of causing the young reader to think and reason.

The Flower Garden; or, the Culture in Open Ground of Bulbous, Tuberos, Fibrous, Rooted or Shrubby Flowers. By Eugene Sebastian Delamer. (Routledge & Co.)—Mr. Delamer's 'Flower Garden' contains the information usually found in these amateur's helps, and gives many useful hints and directions on the laying out of gardens and the arrangement of flowers. There is a good calendar of gardening operations, and also a desirable Index, by which the whole is rendered easy and referable.

Reports and Communications of the Royal Academy of Sciences.—[Verlagen en Mededeelingen der Koninklijke Akademie der Wetenschappen].—*Transactions of the Royal Academy of Sciences.*—[Verhandelingen, &c.]. (Amsterdam.)—By a decree of the 27th of October 1851, the King of Holland suppressed the Royal Institute of Sciences, Literature and the Fine Arts, founded by King Louis Bonaparte in 1808, in imitation of the French Institute, and established in its place an Academy of Sciences only, to be chiefly devoted to the study of chemistry and natural philosophy. In the last 'Jaarboek' of the Institute for 1851, is a memoir, signed by Miquel, the President, and Vrolik, the Secretary,—in which they protest against the king's decision for the suppression of the Institute, as founded upon the mistaken views and ill-judged economy of Thorbecke, the Minister of Internal Affairs,—who had for some years carried on a financial war against the establishment, by proposing to reduce its grants. Europe certainly saw with surprise an institution of this nature peremptorily suppressed in a country like Holland, without cause assigned, and in a time of external peace and internal tranquillity.—The volumes now before us are the first product of the labours of the new Academy. It is much to be desired that the attention of Englishmen of science should be directed more frequently than it has hitherto been to the labours of their Dutch compeers. One of the most interesting articles in these volumes is an essay by G. Vrolik, on the first discoverer of the method by which Pholades perforate stone. The discovery has been disputed between a Frenchman (M. Cailland) and an Englishman (Mr. J. Robertson), whose respective claims were argued before the French Academy of Sciences in 1852. M. Vrolik shows that it was made years ago by his countryman Leendert Bomme, and described by him in the 'Transactions of the Zealand Scientific Society,' published at Middelburg in 1778. There can be little doubt that many observations equally curious and valuable are buried in the long array of the volumes of the Dutch Societies,—and, perhaps, it would be worthy of the attention of one of their men of learning to publish in one of the better known

languages of Europe an abstract of the contents of these sets of volumes, and so to render the general literary public aware of their existence and of the nature of their contents. The result would certainly be a much higher estimate of their value.

The Illustrated Webster Spelling Book. With 250 Engravings. (Ward & Lock.)—This spelling book may supply a want which has been felt by some teachers of little people, who like to find the syllables of their reading lessons properly divided and marked. The spelling lessons are also marked and accented, which is a new feature in a child's first book. There are some good tales and pretty poetry, which, together with the largeness and clearness of the type, will render it an acceptable book for the nursery school-room.

The Royal Picture Alphabet of Humour and Droll Moral Tales; or, Words and their Meanings Illustrated (Ward & Lock), fully bears out its title, and amuses as well as instructs. The illustrations are funny, and will induce young masters and misses to think about the meanings of words, while the verses will enable them to remember their uses.—Messrs. Ward & Lock have also issued the first Part of the 'Child's Railway Library,' which contains Madame de Chatelain's tale of *The Captive Skylark; or, Do as you would be done by.* There are six pretty illustrations, and sixty-four pages of close writing, and all for—sixpence. The tale is very interesting to a child; Ariel takes it to bed and hides it under the pillow. Can there be a greater compliment? Madame de Chatelain may be happy in her success.

Two valuable reprints lie on our table.—Prof. Masson's *Essays: chiefly on the English Poets*,—and Blair's *Chronological Tables*. Prof. Masson's essays have appeared in various periodicals; chiefly, we believe, in the *North British Review* and the *British Quarterly*. They comprise papers on Shakspeare and Goethe, on Milton's youth, Dryden, Swift, Chatterton, and Wordsworth; all of which papers are distinguished by a remarkable power of analysis, a clear statement of the actual facts on which speculation is based, and an appropriate beauty of language. These essays should be popular with serious men. Blair's 'Tables' have been reconstructed on a good principle by Mr. J. W. Rosse, and brought down to the present time. Such a book has its daily usefulness to reader and writer.

The Rev. N. Rouse, in *A Dissertation on Sacred Chronology*, asserts the superiority of the Septuagint chronology to that of Archbishop Usher, and gives an arrangement of Manetho's Egyptian dynasties, which, he thinks, harmonizes with Scripture.—*Physiology and Calisthenics*, by C. E. Beecher, is a popular account of the human frame, with practical rules for promoting health and calisthenic exercises.—Mr. G. H. Boulter's *Course of Book-keeping, by Double and Single Entry*, comprises a sufficient exposition of the subject in all its branches.—*The Georgics of Publius Virgilius Maro*, by J. E. Sheridan, consists of the text of Wagner, with numerous notes, selected from the best German commentaries and other sources.

Etonians, and all who take an interest in Latin and Greek versification, will be pleased to know that a volume of Eton verses, entitled *Musa Etonensis*, has been edited by Dr. Okes. It is the first of a new series, commencing with verses written immediately after the last publication—sixty years ago,—and to be continued at shorter intervals in future. Unlike the 'Arundines Cami' and 'Anthologia Oxoniensis,' it contains none but original pieces. In the list of writers we find the names of Charles Manners Sutton, formerly Speaker of the House of Commons, and John Bird Sumner, the present Archbishop of Canterbury.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Baldwin's Outlines of English History, new edit. 18mo. 1s. cl. swd.
Bard's Waikua, or Adventures on the Mosquito Shore, 8vo. 1s. cl.
Burritt's Sparks from the Anvil, new edit. 12mo. 1s. bds.
Caselli's Lessons in Italian, by G. Tausenau, 3d. 12mo. 3s. swd.
Chalmers's Select Works, Vol. 8, 'Theology,' Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 6s. cl.
Chester's Poems, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Cousin's Elements of Psychology, by Henry, new edit. 7s. cl.
Cowie's Five Sermons before University of Cambridge, March, 5s.
De Porquet's Introduction to Parisian Phraseology, 8th ed. 1s. 6d.
East India Register and Army List, 1856, 2nd edit. 12mo. 10s. swd.
Ferri's Institutes of Metaphysics, 2nd edit. cr. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.
Floriana's Fables, by Jackson, new edit. 12mo. 3s. 6d. bd.

Gill's Gems from the Coral Islands, Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Gurney's (Priscilla) Memoir, edited by R. Corder, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Guy's New British Exposition, 10th edit. 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Hilberd's Epitome of the War, 6s. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Howlett's Methods for Printing Photographs upon Paper, 1s. swd.
Incey, or Smyrna and its Hospital in 1855, by a Lady, 10s. 6d. cl.
Lover's Rory O'More, new edit. 8s. 3s. cl.
Low's Simple Bodies of Chemistry, 3rd edit. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Lyon's Millennial Studies, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Macdon's Descriptive and Historical Account of Folkstone, 3s. cl.
McCombe's Hours of Thought, 3rd edit. 8s. 4s. cl.
Malan's Vindication of Authorized Version of Bible, Part 1, 6s.
Memorials of Agmondesham and Chessham Leycester, post. 8vo. 5s.
Morehead's Clinical Researches on Disease in India, 2 vols. 8s. cl.
Newland's Seasons of the Church, Vol. 1, 8s. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Nomon, post. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Parsons's Mental and Moral Dignity of Woman, 3rd edit. 8s. 8vo. 5s.
Reading for Travellers, 'Albert's Life, by C. M. Charles,' 8s. 8vo. 1s.
Rees on Calculus Disease and its Consequences, 8vo. 5s. cl.
Simpson's Physicians and Physic, cr. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Taylor's Student's Manual of Modern History, 6th edit. 6s. cl.
Taylor's English Synonyms discriminated, new edit. 8s. 8vo. 4s. cl.
Vicars (Capt. H.), Memorials of, 6s. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.

ROUSSEAU AND MADAME DE WARENS.

Mr. B. St. John has courteously sent us the proof-sheets of a portion of his forthcoming work on 'The Subalpine Kingdom,' containing an episodic chapter on Rousseau and Madame de Warens, illustrated by new documents gathered on the spots made famous by the story of these extraordinary people, as told in the 'Confessions.' One of these documents—a contemporary notice of Madame de Warens—appears to us so interesting that we are tempted to extract it in anticipation.—

"Notice on Madame de Warens, written by M. de Conzié to M. le Comte de Mellaré."

"You desire, M. le Comte, that I should communicate to you some anecdotes touching the late Baronne de Warens. I can indeed inform you of some, having seen her immediately on her arrival at Evian in 1726, if I mistake not, and afterward during long years at Chambéry. And first, concerning her arrival in Savoy, where I was at that time in the suite of the late king Victor, who was drinking the waters of Amphion at Evian:—

"This prince was going to hear mass in the parish church, accompanied simply by some lords of his court, among whom was the late M. de Bernex, bishop of Annecy. Scarcely had the king entered the church, when Madame de Warens stopped the prelate by taking hold of his cassock, and threw herself at his feet, saying to him, with tears in her eyes, 'In manus tuas, Domine, commendo spiritum meum.' The bishop stopped, raised up the young penitent, and spoke with her for five minutes. She then went directly to the house of the prelate who (mass being over) went to join her, and having had a pretty long conversation with her, returned to the court, doubtless to relate the whole matter to the king.

"This flight, as you will easily imagine, M. le Comte, created a sudden excitement in that little city, and some began to say that this was a scene of a Magdalen veritably repentant; whilst others, and especially the Swiss who had come to Evian partly to drink the waters and partly to see the king, maintained that this repentance was only simulated, and that the true motive of the flight of the baroness was the disorder which she had introduced into the money affairs of her husband by her inconsiderate prodigality. Examples are not rare of young and amiable women who, by their wit and their figure, know how to captivate their husbands so as to master them.

"Other Swiss arrived in boats after dinner. Scarcely had they come ashore, than the report spread through all the town that they were relations of Madame de Warens, who intended to take her back by force. This report, however ill founded, obtained I think some credit at court, for next morning they sent away the lady in the king's litter, escorted by four body-guards, who conducted her straight, in company with another lady, as far as Annecy, to the convent of the first monastery of the Visitation, in order to instruct her in our religion. This baroness seemed to me at that time to be aged about twenty-four or twenty-six years. I lost sight of her in consequence of my immediate return to Piedmont, where I remained until 1733, when I came back to Chambéry to establish myself there.

"It was during the winter of that year that I had occasion to make acquaintance with her. On coming out of the Visitation she had taken a little house at Annecy, after her abjuration. She was compelled to this humble mode of living, because

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she then only enjoyed a pension of fifteen hundred francs, which our king gave her as a new convert. But Monseigneur de Mazin, then bishop of Maurienne, having known her, gratified her with an annual pension of five hundred francs, and Monseigneur de Bernex gave her as much. Then this baroness finding, doubtless, the city of Annecy too small for the extent of her projects, and of her views, came to establish herself at Chambéry, not, however, to escape the vigilance of her pious benefactresses, (the ladies of the Visitation,)—for her conduct up till then had been exempt from all suspicions, and under cover even from calumny which commonly pursues new-comers when they have wit and beauty. *A propos* of personal appearance, I must here give you a sketch of hers.

"Her figure was middling, but not advantageous, because she had much—very much *embonpoint*—which had rather rounded her alabaster shoulders and given too much development to her form. But she easily caused these defects to be forgotten by a physiognomy full of freshness and interesting gaiety. Her laugh was charming; her complexion of lily and rose. The vivacity of her eyes announced that of her mind, and gave an uncommon energy to everything she said, but without the smallest air of pretension; for everything about her breathed sincerity, harmony, and beneficence, without giving the slightest suspicion that she wished to fascinate by her wit any more than by her figure. Indeed, she neglected the latter too much, though not affectedly, as do some pretended *savantes* of her sex.

"I am unwilling to leave you in ignorance of an anecdote of this baroness, and will tell it for fear of forgetting it. I was conversing with her one day, in *tête-à-tête*, about her change of religion and state. She said to me, 'I never went to bed during above two years without feeling my flesh creep all over my body, on account of the perplexity into which I was plunged by my reflections on this change of religion, which had made me shake off the prejudices of my education, and abjure the faith of my fathers. This long uncertainty was terrible for me, who have always believed in a future eternally happy or unhappy. This indecision for a long time tortured me (*m'a bourréauté* was her expression), but reassured at present,' continued she, 'my soul and my heart are tranquil, and my hopes reanimated.'

"I only render very imperfectly and in abridgment the lively and animated expressions she made use of on this occasion. They produced in me a sensation which has not yet been effaced, although I am about to fulfil my sixteenth lustre.

"The graces of her speech, her mind already enriched by various readings, rendered her extremely seductive and agreeable in conversation, and attached me intimately to her house, where I went daily, and met frequently with Jean Jacques, whose education she had then commenced, and towards whom she employed always the tone of a tender and beneficent Maman, mingling therewith, from time to time, that of the benefactress, to which Jean Jacques always answered with docility, and even with submission.

"After some years of sojourn at Chambéry, she took a country-house near mine, which enabled me more frequently to go and pay my respects to her, and made my intercourse with Jean Jacques a daily one.

"His decided taste for reading induced Madame de Warens to solicit him eagerly to give himself up entirely to the study of medicine, to which he would never consent. As I saw him every day, and as he spoke to me with confidence, I could be under no doubts about his tastes. With a decided love of solitude, and, I may say, an innate contempt for men, with a determined tendency to blame their defects and their weaknesses, he nourished within him a constant mistrust in their propriety.

"It was in this country-house that he began to scribble on paper, in verse and in prose, upon different subjects.

"These productions he read to me, rather, I think, because I was his neighbour than intending to be influenced by my opinion; in which, I think, he was quite right. Having gone to Paris, he printed as his first venture, a method which he

had manufactured at the Charmettes, to learn music perfectly in less than three months. Happily for Jean Jacques, this pamphlet fell into the hands of the learned Aristarchus of that time—I mean the famous Abbé des Fontaines.

"When I say *happily*, I only report the words of Jean Jacques himself, who said to me, that having been pulverised in every sense, in every manner, and with all sorts of reasons, by the said learned doctor, he had been convinced that as yet he knew nothing, not even how to write French; and that it was necessary to read, and to learn to read, before attempting to write. Henceforth, he added, I applied myself to profit by this just lesson, and laid aside the pen!

"To return to that amiable woman: unhappily for her, having no taste for the occupations to which education accustoms her sex, the resource of reading, by which her mind was already adorned, did not suffice to the vivacity of her imagination; so, to occupy herself, she undertook the formation of a company for working a mine in the province of Maurienne, of which her partners and herself were the dupes. Her spirit being always enterprising, she succumbed also in other undertakings, which were not more successful.

"It was in the house neighbouring mine that she formed her numerous projects. Happy, indeed, it had been for her if she had had a taste for agriculture! This would have decided the tranquillity and gentleness of her life, and would have sufficed, joined to pensions that remained to her, to secure the humble well-being, which was all she required; for justice to her requires me to say, that her attempts to obtain wealth were not inspired by cupidity, but that she thought more of the interests of her partners; for generosity and liberality were among the qualities of her heart.

"After the departure of Jean Jacques, I continued to see her, and often went to take her news of him, when I suspected she had not heard directly.

"At last this charming and worthy woman, without money, and I may venture to say almost without credit, and overwhelmed with debts, was fortunate enough to please an old lord of the very highest distinction, who furnished, as long as he lived, the means to meet the daily necessities of the subsistence of this unhappy baroness.

"But the noble disinterestedness, which was always her characteristic, did not allow her to confide to this old lord the sad and inevitable future that threatened her. When she lost him, therefore, she was compelled to beg, so to speak, a corner of a cottage in one of the faubourgs, where she vegetated only by the assistance and charitable cares of her neighbours, who were not—far from it—in good circumstances. Finally, overwhelmed with sufferings of various kinds, that kept her in bed for more than two years, she succumbed with all the sentiments of a strong-minded woman, and a good Christian.

"I have always condemned Jean Jacques, whom she had decorated with the name of her adopted son, in the first place for having preferred the interests of the Levasseur to those of a woman as respectable for him, in every sense, as his washer-woman was little so. He ought to have suspended his pride, from time to time, and only have worked to gain what was indispensably necessary, in order to restore, at least in part, what he had cost his generous benefactress.

"This, Monsieur le Comte, is a rough sketch, or rather piece of gossip which I have not been able to communicate earlier, in consequence of the repugnance I felt to hazard this little narrative, which I imprudently offered you, when I reflected only on the desire you had to possess it.

"I send it to you only in the firm persuasion that you will rectify it. I might have made it much longer, quite sure that you could have rendered it precise, and adorned with that charming style which I know you to possess. But, I repeat, my repugnance to relate facts disgraceful for Jean Jacques, and my feeling how little fitted I am for narration, induce me to stop here. I only hope, that the sacrifice I have made of my self-love for your sake, will prove at least the distinguished sentiments with which I have the honour to be,

Monsieur le Comte, your very humble and affectionate servant,

"CONZIE DES CHARMETTES."

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Council of the Royal Society have recommended the following gentlemen for election into the Society out of the list of candidates:—J. H. Balfour, M.D., E. W. Binney, Sir J. Bowring, Sir J. F. Burgoyne, Bart., P. H. Gosse, R. Harkness, C. H. Hawkins, M. J. Johnson, J. C. Moore, H. M. Noad, E. Potter, Rev. T. R. Robinson, D.D., H. H. Saltor, M.D., A. Smith, Capt. T. A. B. Spratt, R.N. The election will take place on Thursday, the 5th of June, at four o'clock. In consequence of the 29th inst. having been appointed for the exhibition of fireworks and illuminations, the ordinary meeting of the Society will not be held on that day.

It is announced that the office of Assistant Secretary to the Society of Arts will become vacant at the end of June, its present holder, Mr. James Forrest, having been appointed to the Institution of Civil Engineers. It has been resolved to throw open the office to competitive examination.

Are the members of the Committee of the Jubilee Edition of King Alfred's Works incapable of making any sign? Do they wish the public to draw the inevitable inference from their silence? If so, they cannot hope to see subscribers acquiesce in their inactivity, or accept their failure without protest; and we, on our part, cannot wonder that Correspondents, writing in complaint, begin to use angry words. The Jubilee Edition was proposed in 1849 and promised for 1852. Honourable names were put forward as guaranties; the Queen was announced as patroness; subscriptions were received. Yet the year 1852 passed by without producing the work. Another and another and another year elapsed,—and still no Jubilee Edition—and no explanation. What is the reason for this delay—for this continued silence? Lord Ellesmere and Lord Stanhope appear on the committee, at its head, as literary noblemen, and those who have paid subscriptions on the security of their names have surely a right to ask on what grounds the committee justify their apparent breach of contract. Some reasonable explanation can, no doubt, be given; but we put it to the parties concerned, who are all responsible in proportion to their rank in the world of letters, whether such explanation can be refused without creating suspicion which, however false, would be in some degree excusable.

The first Flower Show of the season is announced for this morning (Saturday) at the Crystal Palace.

The Botanical Gardens in Regent's Park—which opened their summer promenade on Wednesday last with a bright day, a good band, and pleasant music—will hold their first Flower Show on Wednesday next.

We are glad to hear from Cheltenham that arrangements are likely to be made for putting the beautiful grounds of Pittville within reach of the scientific visitors during the meeting of the British Association for an evening entertainment. The Sections, which require the use of several rooms at the same time for their morning sittings, will be accommodated at the College,—the extensive and well-situated buildings of which institution the Directors have liberally placed at the disposal of the Association. All the local arrangements, we hear, are progressing favourably:—so that this year's gathering promises to be at least as pleasant as any of those gatherings which are now matter of social history.

We are grieved to hear that Mr. D. Sharpe, President of the Geological Society, met with a severe mishap on Friday last, being thrown from a runaway horse. The Society on Wednesday evening showed its sympathy by an adjournment.

The sister of Burns still lives at Bridgehouse on the Doon at the age of 84, supported mainly by the proceeds of a subscription which was raised for her about fourteen years ago. Her daughters, Agnes and Isabella Begg, whose heroic exertions for her support through many years of neglect drew forth much praise, continue to live with her unmarried. Seeing that the greater part of Mrs.

Begg's income would die with her, Messrs. Chambers published in a cheap form a few years ago an edition of Mr. R. Chambers's 'Life and Works of Burns,' and requested the especial favour of the booksellers in promoting its sale, as the profits were to be given to a fund whereby a provision for the nieces of Burns might be completed after their mother's death. The object was the more interesting as Mrs. Begg regarded the scheme as taking the last load of earthly care off her mind. The public and "the trade" will be gratified to learn that 200l. have been lately handed to the Misses Begg, derived from this source. The sum will be allowed to accumulate at interest till the close of Mrs. Begg's life,—when, with another sum remaining from the subscription, it will be sunk in annuities on the lives of the Misses Begg, who already enjoy life pensions of 10l. each from the Government, granted them by Sir Robert Peel. Thus, what with the public beneficence and what with their own industry, the permanent comfort of these interesting relatives of the Scottish poet may be considered as secured.

Mr. John O'Beirne Crowe, of Queen's University, has carried by competitive examination the Professorship of Celtic Languages in Queen's College, Galway.

A Photographic Society has been established in Edinburgh, under good auspices, with the name of the Photographic Society of Scotland. Prince Albert has accepted the post of Patron. Sir David Brewster is President, and Mr. H. G. Watson Secretary.

The following needs no introduction from us:—

"West Strand, May 22.
"Mr. Murray states in his letter that my charges of wilful omission and suppression in reference to the translation of M. de Montalembert's work are utterly false, for this good reason:—that the passages suppressed did not exist before the publication of the third edition of that work. Now, I assert that they *did* exist in the second edition, which was the one I used in examining the so-called translation. Any one may satisfy himself on this point by referring to pages 173, 178, 195, 200, 201, 252, and 253, of the second French edition, which I have left marked at Messrs. Parker & Son's, the publishers. The chapter of which I more specifically charge the omission, 'O'Connell and the House of Lords,' is the tenth in the second French edition. In the so-called English version, Chapter X. is headed 'The Public Schools and the Universities'; and the numbers of all the subsequent chapters are artfully altered to cover this misfeasance. I will not utter a word of comment, but leave the facts to the public, thanking Mr. Murray for having more fully demonstrated a case which I had well enough proved in *Fraser's Magazine*. I trust to your justice to insert these few lines, and remaining yours, &c.,

"THE REVIEWER OF THE TRANSLATION OF MONTALEMBERT IN 'FRASER'S MAGAZINE.'"

The scientific expedition sent from St. Petersburg to Eastern Siberia before the War broke out—and which was believed to have a menacing character for the territories on the Amoor River, a stream then little known to English readers, though now familiar as the Pruth and the Tchernaya—appears to be making progress in its work. The explorers have surveyed the Amoor, made a map, determined the exact positions by astronomical observations, and collected a body of plants, minerals, and animals,—specimens of the natural wealth and natural productions of the region. If we may credit accounts received from Irkutsk, a movement has taken place in Siberia not unlike that in California and Australia, owing to the discovery of gold in the bed of the Lena, and the sudden irruption of bands of eager gold-seekers.

One of our Correspondents writes:—"It is somewhat singular that no one refers the story of the new drama, 'Retribution,' at the Olympic, to its true owner, M. Charles de Bernard. It appears in his collection of tales, '*Le Paravent*,' under the title of '*Le Droit du Talion*,' which should have suggested the title *Retribution*, in the place of '*Retribution*.' The faulty construction of the

last scene, in which the dying seducer is told that the retaliation, after all, is not complete, is a departure both from the original novel and from dramatic propriety of so gross a character, that M. de Bernard ought to be exonerated from any share in so complete a frustration of the point of his story. It fully justifies your remark, that the curtain falls upon a most unsatisfactory situation."

The Paris scientific journals announce the decease of M. Binet, the eminent mathematician. He presided over the École Polytechnique from 1816 to 1850, and more recently was President of the Academy of Sciences, and showed himself in this position highly deserving of the trust reposed in him.

M. Bavard, of Buenos Ayres, has forwarded to the Academy of Sciences an account of his investigations into the fossil bones of South America. His collection now comprises upwards of 6,000 fossils, among which are fifty entirely new species.

A munificent friend of literature has forwarded to the French Society of Men of Letters a donation of 10,000 francs. The gift is accompanied by a note requesting that 6,000 francs may be assigned to four medals, to be awarded to the best essay on four stated subjects,—the first of which is 'Criticism and the Critics of the Nineteenth Century,' and the remaining 4,000 francs to the reward of papers of merit inferior to the best.

Lord Clarendon has declined to permit the jurors and exhibitors who received from Louis Napoleon the decoration of the Legion of Honour, permission to wear the order. This refusal we approve,—but not for the reason on which it is based. As our readers know, we heard with satisfaction of the preparation of a Memorial to Lord Clarendon on the subject of these decorations,—a Memorial strongly signed by those who were concerned, even though two or three conspicuous names were absent,—not because we thought or desired that Lord Clarendon would grant the prayer put forth, but because we rejoiced to see attention firmly drawn to the subject of our want of an English Order of Merit. The correspondence between Mr. Bazley and Mr. Warren De la Rue on the part of their fellow legionaries and the Government took the following form:—

To the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,—We have the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copies of three decrees of His Majesty the Emperor of the French appointing ourselves and others to the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honour. Your Lordship is probably aware that the Emperor took advantage of the International Exhibition in Paris to recognize public services rendered to Science and Industry by nominations to the Legion of Honour. We fully appreciate the honours which have thus been bestowed upon us by an Ally of our gracious Queen, while we were acting either as jurors under appointments made by the Imperial Commissioners entrusted with the management of the Exhibition or as exhibitors. We therefore venture through you to approach Her Majesty with the prayer, that Her Majesty would be graciously pleased to accord to us permission to wear the insignia of the Order conferred upon us. We do this with greater confidence of having our prayer granted when we consider that although there is no Order of Merit established in this country for the reward of Civil Services of persons who are not the immediate servants of the Crown, yet Her Majesty has always been pleased to take much interest in the progress of Science and of industrial pursuits. If, therefore, Her Majesty graciously consented to grant the permission which we request, the recognition which we would thus obtain of Her Majesty's approval of any services which we may have been fortunate enough to have rendered to Science and Industry, would much enhance to us, as loyal subjects of the Queen, the favours conferred upon us by Her Majesty's illustrious Ally.—We have the honour to be, your Lordship's obedient humble servants,

Thomas Bazley, William Bird, David Brewster, David Baxter, T. R. Crampton, Thomas Graham, Walter Crum, A. W. Hofmann, Thomas De la Rue, Warren De la Rue, William Fairbairn, Peter Graham, Thomas F. Gibson, Darrton Lupton, George R. Elkington, Sierry Hunt, Charles Knight, W. E. Logan, William MacArthur, Samuel Jackson, Richard Owen, John Crossley, John Platt, J. Forbes Royle, John Tennant, John Bennet Lawes, Titus Salt, T. Twining, Jun., M. Digby Wyatt, John Wilson, C. Wheatstone, Rosse.

Foreign Office, March 6, 1856.

Gentlemen,—I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter requesting that he will obtain for you the Queen's permission to accept and wear the insignia of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honour conferred upon you by the Emperor of the French, in approbation either of services rendered as jurors at the Paris Exhibition of last year, or of contributions thereto. Lord Clarendon desires me to state to you in reply, that

according to the established regulations respecting Foreign Orders, of which a printed copy is inclosed, no British subject can be allowed to accept or wear the insignia of a foreign order unless they shall have been conferred for active and distinguished service before the enemy either at sea or in the field, or unless such British subject shall have been actually and entirely employed beyond Her Majesty's Dominions in the service of the Foreign Sovereign by whom the order is conferred. As these regulations admit of no exception, Lord Clarendon much regrets that it is not in his power to comply with your request.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

Thomas Bazley, Esq. and others.

To Lord Palmerston.

My Lord,—I have the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information, the copy of a Memorial to Lord Clarendon, signed by men distinguished in Science, and in its industrial applications. Your Lordship will observe that part of the claims of that Memorial rests on the grounds that as Her Majesty has not an Order of Merit by which she can reward discoveries in Science and Industry, the recognition of honours bestowed by Her Majesty's illustrious Ally would enable Her Majesty to show her recognition of Scientific and Industrial Merit. As this larger question involves the consideration of the Premier rather than of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I have been instructed, as Secretary to the Memorialists, to send a copy of the Memorial to your Lordship.—I have the honour to be, your Lordship's obedient servant,

(Signed) WARREN DE LA RUE.

Downing Street, March 8, 1856.

Sir,—I am desired by Lord Palmerston to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, and of the accompanying copy of Memorial addressed to the Earl of Clarendon by several gentlemen who acted as jurors or were exhibitors at the late International Exhibition in Paris, requesting permission to wear the insignia of the Legion of Honour conferred upon them by the Emperor of the French.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) WILLIAM LAW.

Warren De la Rue, Esq.

—Lord Palmerston may be considered as replying through Lord Clarendon; and we suppose the most sanguine of the English legionaries will despair of being able to sport his bit of geranium ribbon. But the action should not close here, in defeat. Lord Palmerston must feel more strongly than ever the need of a new order for the reward of Civil Merit; and institutions which have logic and state necessity in their favour must sooner or later answer to the need. We cannot believe that merit will have to wait in vain for the Order of Victoria.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Trafalgar Square.—THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS IS NOW OPEN.—Admission (from Eight till Seven o'clock), One Shilling; Catalogues, One Shilling.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A. Secretary.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, at the Gallery, 6, Pall Mall East (close to Trafalgar Square), from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogues, 6d.

JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THIS SOCIETY IS NOW OPEN, at the Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace, daily, from Nine till dusk.—Admission 1s.; Season Tickets, 5s. each.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

FRENCH EXHIBITION.

THE THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY MODERN ARTISTS OF THE FRENCH SCHOOL IS NOW OPEN, at the Gallery, 121, Pall Mall.—Admission, 1s.; Season Tickets, 5s.; Catalogues, 6d.

B. FRODSHAM, Secretary.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 4, Coventry Street, Leicester Square.—OPEN, for Gentlemen only, from 10 till 12. Containing upwards of 1,000 Models and Preparations, illustrating every part of the Human Frame in Health and Disease, the Races of Men, &c. Lectures delivered at 12, 4, and half-past 7, by Dr. G. Serravallo, and a new and highly interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by DR. KAHN, at half-past 8 every Evening.—Admission, One Shilling.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Patron, H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.—On Monday Evening, at 8, Award of Prizes to Working Men, and Address on Trades' Schools, by Mr. Buckmaster.—On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 4 and 8, the New, Grand, and Imaginative Series of Views, illustrating Bunyan's Allegory of the PILGRIM'S PROGRESS, with Descriptive Lecture by the Rev. J. B. Baileys.—On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 8, Lecture on THE MOON CONTROVERSY.—On the same days, at 4 and 8, the Historical Entertainment of KENILWORTH; at 8, MUSICAL LECTURE by G. Barker, Esq.; and at 8.30 and 9.30, Performances by M. MONTMAYE, M. MONTMAYE, and by H. H. ZIMM on the Child's Moral Organ.—All the other Lectures on CHEMISTRY, the ELECTRIC LIGHT, and PHOTO-GALVANOGRAHY, as usual; daily exhibition of the New and Large Model of SEBASTOPOL, mounting 2,000 guns and mortars.—Admission to the whole, 1s.; Children and Schools half-price.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

ASIATIC.—Anniversary Meeting.—May 17.—Prof. H. H. Wilson, in the chair.—The report from the Council on the Society's proceedings during the past year was read. The Report commenced with congratulating the meeting on a large increase in

the number of members, and furnished a statement of the elections, retirements and deaths since the last anniversary. The decease of Charles Elliott, Esq., the Treasurer of the Society, was adverted to in terms of deep regret for the loss of so useful an officer and so valuable a member. A brief sketch was given of his career in India, from his earliest years until his retirement thirty years ago.

—Short biographical notices were also read of Sir Henry Pottinger, and the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ellis. The Report next mentioned the election of the two Kings of Siam among the Honorary Members of the Society, upon the recommendation of Sir Henry Bowring, who was actuated by a wish to give due honour to the literary and scientific attainments of these princes, and to acknowledge the protection given by them to British interests in the country under their rule. The same honorary degree had been conferred on our countryman the Rev. R. S. Hardy, the investigator of Buddhism in its history, philosophy and modern development; and the Rev. Dr. Hincks, a successful decipherer of the inscriptions discovered in the ruins of Assyria and Babylonia; also upon the distinguished Danish scholar, Prof. Westergaard, who has contributed such valuable helps to the study of the Sanscrit and Zend languages, and to our knowledge of the religion of ancient Persia. The Report went on to give a succinct sketch of the progress made by Sir Henry Rawlinson in Assyrian and Babylonian archaeology since the last Annual Meeting,—the discovery and import of the Tablets of the ancient Chaldean Kings of Mesopotamia, who reigned during the ten centuries which preceded the establishment of that branch of the Assyrian empire which closed with the Sardanapalus of Greek tradition,—of the discovery of the true import of the numerous tablets found in Kuyunjik, which prove to be comparative vocabularies and lists of phrases in the Assyrian tongue, and in the Hamitic idioms spoken within the bounds of the Assyrian empire,—the monument of the Biblical Pul, and of his wife Semiramis, the Semiramis of Herodotus,—and the cylinder of Neriglissar, preserved for fifty years in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge. This part of the Report concluded with honourable mention of the labours of Hincks, Oppert, Brandis and Fox Talbot.—Among the donations to the library made during the year, the Report noticed the magnificent work of their colleague Mr. Morley, on a Persian Astrolabe, beautifully illustrated by anastatic plates, taken directly from the instrument,—the Chinese version of the Bible, printed at Shanghai for the British and Foreign Bible Society,—and the whole of the Zend texts, by Prof. Westergaard, with a valuable introduction in English, of which some account was given in the Report.—The Oriental Translation Committee has also sent in a report which was embodied in that of the Council, advertising to the publication of the *Spicilegium Syriacum*, by the Rev. W. Cureton,—the approaching completion of the great work *Haji Khalifa Lexicon*, which has been so many years in progress,—and the near conclusion of the translation of the *Kitab al Yamini*, by the Rev. James Reynolds,—a work comprising the most ancient historical records of the events of the period to which it refers.—The Report of the Auditors on the financial position of the Society was then read, from which it appeared that, although a considerable addition under the head of subscriptions might be anticipated for the current year, the expenses of printing would be heavy, and the auditors therefore recommended another application to Government for assistance to enable the Society to continue the publication of the 'Rawlinson Papers.'—The Reports of the Council and Auditors were unanimously adopted by the meeting; thanks were voted to the Council and officers for their services during the past year, and a ballot was taken for the Council and officers for the ensuing year.—Col. Sykes was elected a *Vice-President*; R. Clarke, Esq., *Treasurer* and also *Hon. Secretary pro tem.*; J. Shakespear, Esq., *Librarian*; and the following gentlemen were elected into the Council:—N. B. E. Baillie, W. B. Bayley, J. W. Bosanquet, Sir P. T. Cautley, Sir T. E. Colebrooke, Bart., S. Gregson, Bart., Dr. R. G. Latham, the

Right Hon. H. Mackenzie, J. Muir, O. De Beauvoir Priaulx, Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry C. Rawlinson, T. C. Robertson, Prof. F. Royle, M.D., E. Thomas, and J. P. Willoughby.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—April 23.—S. R. Solly, V.P., in the chair.—Dudley Costello and W. S. Woodin, Esqs., were elected Associates.—The Rev. Beale Post exhibited various antiquities, obtained from Kent. They consisted of portions of an urn, containing ashes and bones intermixed with clay. Also a bill-hook and other iron implements, greatly decomposed and incrustated together with portions of chalk, obtained from a spot where a coin of Alfred was also found; but the meeting regarded them as of a time not anterior to Henry the Eighth. A singularly beautiful pair of bronze tweezers, found near the tumulus at Boxley Hill, and resembling others figured by the Association and by Mr. Akerman from Anglo-Saxon deposits.—Mr. Eaton produced forty-eight Roman coins, found at Loughor, on the shores of the Burry river, South Wales. They were from the time of Gallienus to Constantine, A.D. 253–350.—Mr. Gunston exhibited cloth-marks and tradesmen's tokens, hitherto unpublished, found in different parts of London.—Mr. Harland communicated the particulars attending the find of a very large quantity (supposed to be not less than 1,900) of Roman coins at Hooley, near Heywood, Lancashire. They were contained in a large globular vase, of coarse, red earthenware. Of these imperial coins, those belonging to ten or eleven reigns had already been made out, extending from Gallienus to Probus, A.D. 253–276.—Mr. C. E. Elliott exhibited a fine iron key, of the time of Henry the Seventh, found in the Thames, at Mortlake.—Mr. Syer Cuming read 'Notes on a Spear-Head and some Horse-Shoes, supposed to be Roman, found at Alchester, Oxon.' He also read a paper 'On the Silver Engravings of Simon de Passe,'—and exhibited a variety of specimens, among which were a set of twelve jettons, engraved with the figures of William the First, Stephen, Richard the First, John, Henry the Fourth, Henry the Sixth, Edward the Fifth, Henry the Seventh, Henry the Eighth, Maria, the mother of James the First, Charles the First, and Charles, Prince of Wales,—and an oval plate, with the busts of the Princess Elizabeth, her husband, the Elector Palatine, and their eldest child, Prince Frederic Henry, who was drowned in Haerlem Mere in 1625.—Mr. Alfred Thompson exhibited an oil painting, of great merit, supposed to be the portrait of Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia, and read a notice of the various portraits and effigies made of her, several of which were laid upon the table.—The meeting concluded by an extraordinary exhibition of relics of Charles the First, brought up from Kent, for exhibition to the Association, by the Rev. Thomas Harvey, of Cowden Rectory, in whose possession they are now vested. They consisted of a portion of the monarch's wardrobe,—jacket, waistcoat, trunk hose, slippers, &c.,—a portion of bed furniture, his large star of the Order of the Garter, his hunting horn, and beautifully-chased large camp-watch. Upon these and other interesting articles belonging to Mr. Harvey, Mr. Planché delivered an explanatory discourse; and Mr. Cuming's supplementary paper 'On the Charles Relics' was deferred until the next meeting.

MAY 14.—S. R. Solly, V.P., in the chair.—E. Dixon and G. M. Hughes, Esqs., were elected Associates.—Mr. Gunston exhibited a Chalcos of Mamertina, in Sicily, found in the Holloway Road. This is not the only instance of the asserted discovery of Greek coins in London, and must be regarded with suspicion.—Mr. Gibbs laid before the meeting a beautiful medal, struck in commemoration of Queen Anne's grant of the First-fruits and Tenth to augment the incomes of the poorer clergy. It was struck in 1704.—Capt. Tupper exhibited a bronze javelin-head and a pot-formed celt, found in England; also, two flint arrow-heads and two stone axes, discovered at Belfast.—Mr. Pettigrew read 'Notes on the Seal of an Extinct Abbey at Louth Park, Lincolnshire, with some Particulars relating to its Foundation.'—Mr. Syer Cuming read a supplementary

paper 'On Relics of Charles the First,' and exhibited a fine specimen of point-lace mitten, said to have been worn by the monarch at his baptism. Mr. Cuming described the armour presented to Charles by the Armourers' Company when created Prince of Wales. It is now in the Tower; and was the suit placed on the coffin of the Duke of Marlborough at the time of his interment in Westminster Abbey. A variety of relics were described and some exhibited; among the latter, several specimens of ornaments having portions of the hair of the King.—Mr. Thompson exhibited a fine oval miniature, on copper, of the Queen Henrietta Maria, attributed to Vandyke.—Mr. Jobbins read an amusing paper 'On the History of Spoons,' tracing this useful domestic implement from its earliest appearance among the Egyptians to the present time. He illustrated his paper by various fine specimens, among which was a set of ten Apostle spoons, silver gilt, and drawings of the varied forms observed in different countries and at different periods.

NUMISMATIC.—April 24.—W. Vaux, Esq., President, in the chair.—Dr. Loewe read a paper 'On Jewish Coins, chiefly of Simon Maccabæus.'

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—May 5.—W. W. Saunders, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. Janson exhibited *Heterius quadratus*, a beetle unrecorded as British, and of great rarity on the Continent,—found in ants' nests at Hampstead.—Mr. Stevens exhibited a beautiful specimen of *Petasia nubes-culosa*, recently taken in Perthshire; also *Aleucis pictaria*, from Dartford Heath.—Capt. Cox exhibited *Acherontia Atropos*, taken in the Hospital at Seutari; and some beautifully-executed drawings of the larvæ of Lepidoptera, by Mrs. Cox.—Mr. Stevens exhibited the sexes of *Pausus Natalensis*, from Port Natal, sent by Mr. R. W. Plant; and several pairs of *Taphroderes distortus*.—Mr. Bond exhibited the larvæ of *Coleophora Wockella*, found on *Betonia officinalis*, near Canterbury.—Mr. Scott exhibited *Elachista Tenuatella*, a species new to this country, bred from larvae found on *Brachypodium sylvaticum*.—Mr. Stainton exhibited a beautiful engraving of *Lithocolletis tenella*, by Mr. Edward Robinson.—Read a note, by Mr. Newman, 'On a Deviation from the Normal Economy of *Hemerobius variegatus*,' and by Dr. Maclean, 'On the Economy of *Gonepteryx Rhamni*.'—Mr. Douglas communicated a translation of a paper in Guérin's *Revue et Magasin de Zoologie* for December last, 'On *Epicra Senegalensis*.' The silk produced by this spider the author considered might be employed for many purposes, for which the produce of the silkworm is at present too expensive.—Mr. White read a paper 'On a New Species of Necrodes from Borneo and India.'—Mr. Smith read some observations 'On the Difficulties attending the Discrimination of the Species of the Genus Stylops.'

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—May 13.—Dr. W. Camps, Treasurer, in the chair.—Mr. J. Bonomi read a memoir, being 'Reasons for believing that certain Egyptian Pictures and Sculptures contain representations of a Tribe of the Anakim mentioned in Scripture.'—The pictures referred to by Mr. Bonomi were a design from the interior of the great Temple of Abu Simbel, representing the king contending with two men of large stature, light complexion, scanty beard, and having a remarkable lock of hair pendant from the side of the head; as also other representations of the same people met with at the royal tombs of Biban el Moluk, at Medina Tabu, at Karnak, and elsewhere; and the name given in hieroglyphics to these figures at Karnak, and in the picture in the royal tomb opened by Belzoni, and which he read as signifying "Tanmahu," or by elision, "Talmah"; the name given to one of the tribes of the children of Anak, in the 22nd verse of the 13th chapter of Numbers.—Mr. Sharpe combatted the conclusions arrived at by Miss Fanny Corbux and Mr. Bonomi, by different chains of evidence, as to these Egyptian figures representing the Anakim, from the facts of the figure of the lotus on their garments denoting that they were dwellers on the Lower Nile; from their being often represented as paying tribute,

and from the servant race of Lower Egypt being noticed by Ammianus Marcellinus, as, with the king's son, wearing a peculiar lock of hair.—Mr. Sharpe did not read the hieroglyphic name which in some instances accompanies these figures as Mr. Bonomi did. He considered them to represent Arabs, who appear to have always dwelt in the valley of the Nile, on the east.—Archdeacon Raymond remarked upon the paucity of details which existed with regard to the Anakim.—Mr. Ainsworth noticed that the scanty light beard was a feature of the Bedouin Arabs, who also not unfrequently in the present day, wore their hair in plaited locks.—Dr. Bell gave a brief account of the difference that has arisen between Prof. Lepsius and Von Gumpach on the subject of the 'Apis Cycle.'

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Geographical, 1.—Anniversary.
Tues. Institution of Civil Engineers, 9.—President's Conversation.
 Horticultural, 3.
 British Meteorological, 7.—General and Council.
 Zoological, 9.—Scientific.
Wed. Royal Institution, 8.—On Photography, by Mr. Malone.
 Society of Arts, 8.—History and Present State of the Machine-wrought Lace Trade, by Mr. Felkin.
 Geological, 8.—On the Silurian Rocks of Wiltshire, by Mr. Moore.—On the Influence of the Ocean-Currents on the Formation of Strata, by Mr. Babage.
 Microscopical, 8.
 Royal Society of Literature, 8.
 British Archaeological Association, 8.—On the Antiquities of Cumæ, by Mr. Pettigrew.—On Offertory Dishes, and on the Santa Casa and our Lady of Loretto, by Mr. Cumine.
Thurs. Royal Institution, 8.—On Light, by Prof. Tyndall.
 Society of Antiquaries, 8.
 Numismatic, 7.
Fri. Royal Institution, 8.—On the Chemical Principles involved in Agricultural Experiments, by Dr. Playfair.
Sat. Royal Institution, 8.—On the Non-Metallic Elements, their Manufacture and Application, by Dr. Hofmann.

FINE ARTS

ROYAL ACADEMY.

It is rather anomalous that a nation of portrait painters should, in an annual Exhibition of more than a thousand pictures, produce so few portraits of excellence. Of the numbers here exhibited, from such excellently broad heads as Mr. Hart produces, down to the shallow horrors of the youngest canvas-spoiler, there are few which, put beside Titian's senators or Vandyke's cavaliers, would not appear mere *ébauches*, tricked in at a couple of sittings. It is not that modern portraits are not full of character and life,—it is not that their colour is not fresh and natural,—it is not that they are as a rule defective in drawing, but it is that they are mere feats of business, brushed in cleverly, without love and without self-respect. The painter has no desire to produce a work of Art—no admiration for the sitter, and no emulous desire for excellence.

The cause of this decadence and of our hasty superficiality is too clear. Portrait painting is a task done for money. The object is to paint not as many good pictures as possible in the year, but as many full-lengths as possible in the time—as many ladies and poodles, officers and feathers, children and battledores, as may be done. The object is to send them home as little finished as the sitter or friends will take them in. (Hands hid if possible.) The grand broad style is the quickest, and the historical background is much the most easy, for texture of cloth, real trees, and animals with real hair take up time, and are not in everyone's reach. By these smears the public taste is lowered; and we trust that another year the Academy will be much more rigorous in their selection of such monstrosities.

Mr. Boxall is first this year among the portrait painters. As usual, his colour is glutinously brown and often monotonous, yet so rich-toned are his heads, and so carefully modelled the features, that they attract the eye towards them irresistibly, by the very magnetism of their force and life. One disagreeable peculiarity of them is, however, that they are generally colossal, and their boundary lines are foggy, wavering, and uncertain, for Mr. Boxall is more a colourist than a draughtsman. The result of this indecisive frontier to a head is, that it seems ready to melt into nonentity, and requires to be viewed at a distance, where its colour can still reach you, but its shapelessness cannot. Mr. Boxall's heads

have no pure red and white about them—no glaze of sunshine—no laughing blue and twining gold. They are rather such faces as we see moving in the twilight: they are sombre, and generally inclined to the bilious temperament. Mr. Boxall's tone of colour is of a grave character, and his highest light is seldom brighter than a November morning; but with all this there is much mental power moulded into his massy and vitalized heads, though his figures are naught and his hands seldom presentable. The features are dwelt upon and shaped till the picture really assumes the character of something more than a first painting of red and grey. Mr. Boxall probably paints less, and may even have to reject sitters; but he is well repaid for his self-denial by rising in rank as an artist,—thus, to lose in trade is to rise in Art. Of his best style, though dirty in colour, is *R. P. Collier, Esq. M.P.* (500); and the *chef-d'œuvre* of the whole Academy, *R. Cowen, Esq.* (514): the eyes of this portrait are very searching, and the whole head is instinct with meditative intelligence.

Mr. Grant does not improve, and seems painting against time. The spoiled child of the public, he grows pale and bruised in colour, and more than ever conventional in manner, while his backgrounds are what the judge would call "a caution to land-skippers." Still, however, Mr. Grant, who paints now with the *nonchalant* air of a rich man, is almost the only artist who can express with truth and sympathy the quiet, self-reliant grace of the English lady, calm but not cold, thoughtful yet not morose, gentle without timidity, pure without prudery, and reserved without arrogance. With perfect control over brush and paint, Mr. Grant treats us with clever incompleteness, hurried heads, with red coats, and trees thrown in as much finished as is possible for the money. The result must be, that such works will a generation or two hence, when those now ruling have turned ancestors, too often be promoted to the garret, where Hudsons and such forgotten favourites already hang and gather dust. Mr. Grant's best portrait is the *Duke of Rutland* (63), who, wig and all, is easy and natural enough. You identify the likeness at once, but the face does not bear looking into or wandering over, like an old master's head: we do not expect it to turn round, nor does the colour come and go, nor the eye answer ours. *Lord Raglan* (116) is another good likeness of a methodical average man misplaced. As a matter of history, this picture is worth ten minutes of quiet serious thought, though we have only a clever map of a face. *Lord Lucan* (190) carries on the history of the War, and is a study for physiognomists, who choose to read past blunders in the features of our irascible and impetuous cavalry officer. Of female portraiture made graceful we have the *Countess of Portsmouth* (220); and as an example of contrast, in a severer class of face, that of the *Hon. Sir Charles Crompton, Justice of the Queen's Bench* (432). If Mr. Grant did less he would do better.—Mr. Buckner's portrait of *Mrs. Coningham* (16) is too livid in colour, and his background is a miracle of confusion. With a little more care and time, he would rival Mr. Grant in one branch of art.—Mr. Swinton, too, treads on his heels, sharing all his faults and many of his excellencies, as in his *Lady Claud Hamilton* (6). His style is light, flowing, and graceful, but his execution is what old lute-players called "slubbed," and is sometimes unduly coarse, heavy, and careless. No painter who despises a chair can paint a chair, for in slighting it he will be sure to neglect perspective, or omit the high light, slur some truth, half state some beauty, mumble some fact, or pervert some wonderful excellence and variety of nature.

Ary Scheffer interests every one by his portrait of *Charles Dickens* (62), or rather Mr. Dickens interests us, if not Scheffer. The portrait is very thinly painted in parts, is of a monotonous colour, and is not on the whole successful. Mr. Dickens has been caught in one of his most unusual moods, and looks as devoid of humour as any writer of social comedy could well look.

Mr. Hart displays great experience and certainty of touch in his full-length of *Baron Rothschild* (50). There is a sort of half-a-million manner about Sir

Anthony which is characteristic; indeed, he seems on the very point of concluding the loan. The picture, though very full of life and power, is rather coarse in treatment and wants refinement. Better on this account is *The Lord Mayor* (207), in his King of Brentford costume, the very identical red and ermine in which he astonished the King of Sardinia. The face, though rather paled by the red gown, is strongly painted, and the dress loses none of its size or grandeur in Mr. Hart's skilful hands.

Mr. Winterhalter sends a clever sketch of the *Lady Clementina Villiers* (123), not without a sense of beauty, but rather rough in execution.—Sir J. W. Gordon, in his loving and careful portrait of *Mr. David Cox* (138), contributes one of the best full-lengths in this year's Exhibition. He is always sturdy, honest, manly, and judicious. His shadows are strong; and getting hold, as he does, of rugged men, who have not been always dandled in drawing-rooms, he paints them with uncompromising strength. This head of the old artist projects from the canvas, with peering eyes and blunt, humorous glance. His *Professor Ferguson* (358), however, is very unfinished, with its fresco-like, unblended reds and greys and patches of high lights, which are merely the ground plans of a building yet to be reared. This is no more finish than the red spots on a new door are finish. *S. Warren, Esq.* (424) is equally careless. For utter sketchiness, which only an amateur would be contented with, we must mention *Lieut.-Col. Hamley* (504).—Mr. J. G. Gilbert's portrait of *Sir J. W. Gordon* (176), though careful and strong, is much injured by the fantastic, obsolete dress in which court fashion chooses to disguise its votaries. The painter should be painted as a painter, and not as a silk-legged puppet at a wearisome *levée*.—Mr. Tait's portrait of *T. Carlyle, Esq.* (153) has little merit beyond that of a good subject.

Mr. Boutibonne, in his portrait of the *Empress Eugénie* (155), gives us a clever impression of some dozen yards of a lilac-coloured riding habit and some grey trees. As for the face, it is very pale, weak, stippled porcelain,—the feeblest bit in the picture. The foreground, too, is monotonous, and dully treated. The *Emperor* (139) is better, and yet reaches no degree of excellence.

Royal persons are doomed to be mispainted,—for the *King of the Belgians* (425) does not look very kingly in the hands of M. Verboeckhoven. Better pictures than this have been refused at the Academy.—*Professor Owen* (93) figures to the life, introduced by Mr. H. W. Pickersgill. The shell in his hand looks too like a skittle-ball; and the unpleasant jar of pickles, to the left hand, had better have been kept down, being rather ambiguous in the character of its contents. The head is boldly painted, and has more life than is usually in the reach of Mr. Pickersgill. *Signor Laista* (361) is equally effective, being simple in management. *The Late Mrs. Crellin* (374) is tame and feeble, and does not deserve so good a place as it has obtained. That of *T. Bell, Esq., F.R.S., President of the Linnean Society*, (417) is broad and by no means to be passed over as a commonplace interpretation of the intelligent seer. It is a good portrait of a very able naturalist.—For unflattering portraiture, we may select *Madame Hereau* (205), by Miss Boyce;—for honest, truthful painting, Mr. Lucas's portraits, particularly that of *The Late Joseph Hume* (249), which is not treated in a very original way.

Mr. Sant maintains his ground this year as a painter of children,—that is, fashionable children,—for he does not display any peculiar knowledge of childhood in the abstract. *The Children of the Duke of Argyll* (67) are rather affected with their self-conscious goodness and elevated hands. Prayer with children is a thing of true religious feeling; but it is chequered by the natural inattention of their age, and is not a formal display like this phenomenal posture-making. The children are beautiful, too, with all their class-refinement: their eyes are jewelled blue; their hair of the real Saxon-angel type; and their flesh a concrete of creamy rose. It is singular that Mr. Sant, who in portraiture of children is all bloom and alabaster, directly he attempts landscape or fancy subjects

turns brown, heavy, dull, and muddy. *The Children in the Wood* (327) has no forest charm about it. There are no glowworm stars shimmering through green twilights of leaves—no handful of buds tossed up as from a fountain—but, instead, paint, gum, and mud. We pity the infant mummies. In his portrait of *Miss de Rothschild* (82) this bright-coloured, sensuous painter breaks out again in full flower. The ripe Eastern beauty of this face is exquisitely translated into paint. The full lip—the veiled eye—are treated in Mr. Desange's manner.

Amongst the remaining portraits, we may mention Mr. Claxton's *Bishop of Calcutta* (188),—and Mr. Smith's *Aeneas Maclean, Esq.* (456).—Mr. Middleton's *Marchioness of Blandford* (468) is unnatural and unpleasing in colour.

Before passing to the Miniatures we must sum up a few pictures, which still remain unnoticed. First of these is Mr. Leslie's *Hermione* (144), a rather chalky, but un-Shakspearian study, not without elevation of feeling. There is a lassitude about Mr. Leslie's painting which indicates a state of health all lovers of Art must regret.—Mr. Huggins improves in his *Poultry* (18). They are bright and varied in colour, and the drawing very expressive and careful.—Mr. Wyburd is an instance of very unfair hanging after many years of good places, where his fine work can alone be seen: his largest picture is placed over a door (1051). We think Mr. Wyburd timid and effeminate; but such good painting as his does not deserve such neglect.—Mr. G. Smith still paints children, but he will never rival Mr. Webster by such pictures as the *Good Schoolboy* (281). His boys are clean, over-fed, glossy patterns of boyhood, such as are found only as models in spelling-book stories.—A careful study, and pleasing in colour, of a *Bird and Fruit* (57) is Mr. J. R. Vernon's.—For execrable taste, both of colour, manner and subject, we should mention M. Déveria's *Birth of Edward the Sixth* (585), which is only fit for a lying-in hospital.—Mr. Hardy's *Interiors* (300) are delicate and Teniers-like as ever.

Among landscapes we should not forget to mention the sustained promise of Mr. Linnell, jun., and the brilliancy and rich colour of Mr. Herring's Italian scenes,—particularly his *Isola di San Giulio* (501), one of the pleasantest pictures that ever came from his hands.

Mr. Earl's *Watchers* (613) is remarkable for a simple poetry, with which such oft-repeated things as a child's cradle are seldom invested with.

The miniatures are matchless and indescribable as ever—often hard, often feeble, yet always pleasing, and generally loaded with execution. Unlike oil portraits, they seldom seem hurried or manufactured, and the labour expended on them appears to be willingly given. A limited ambition has not yet run into absurdities, though the style of the best men grows broader, simpler, and more like water-colours. Of outlying works there are enamels, and models of medals, &c.—all faultless and uninteresting,—beside real works of Art. Among a mass of crayon drawings, pencil sketches, and coloured studies, we select, as commendable, a careful study of a dead *Woodpigeon* (648), by Mr. P. Browne, rich in its purple and green neck-tints,—and some close imitations of Mr. Hunt (1003) by Mr. Burcham, a clever and industrious amateur.—Though rather hot in colour the gem of the miniatures is Mr. Thorburn's portrait of *Mrs. Louther* (700):—the head most full of grace and witchery. Mr. Thorburn is slowly passing Sir A. C. Ross,—surpassing him in colour, breadth and fleshiness.—The full-length of *Lord Suffolk* (723), by Miss Moira, may be taken as almost a perfect specimen of finish,—hidden rather than displayed;—but as a sketch, in which the grain of the ivory is left unconcealed with beautiful effect, commend us to Mr. Thorburn's group of the *Daughters of the Right Hon. H. Labouchere* (722).—In the *Gurney Family* (734), by Sir W. C. Ross, the children are affected and careworn in expression. In some of Mr. Thorburn's miniatures he has introduced backgrounds,—very elaborate, but utterly false to nature. Why, with his power and knowledge, could he not tone down

real nature, and treat us with green leaves and blue skies, and not such pea-green darknesses as he furnishes us with for Italian effects.—In elegant arrangement of dress, almost statuesque and yet truthful, and in conveying the higher grace of aristocratic life, the miniature painters are far beyond the oil. The ivory, indeed, seems to lend itself to the purpose, and to be more susceptible of a certain polished beauty than the ruder material of canvas.

Among the clever drawings we select *Mrs. Lumley* (918), by J. C. Moore,—*J. Chapman, Esq.* (924), by Mr. Tidey,—and *Portrait of a Child* (1005), by O. Oakley.

Of the miscellaneous works we must specify Mr. Hunt's interesting studies from the Holy Land. Of these, *Jerusalem by Moonlight* (885) is nothing but so many round house-tops and a cypress thrown into a certain solemn light; but *The Sphinx, of Gizeh* (1002), is remarkable for its strange colour, so hot and sandy, and for the violet duskiness of the shadows. The crushed viper at the base is well thought of, and the whole is burningly Oriental. But the crown of these small rooms is a most imaginative *Sketch* (880), by Mr. Armitage, taken at the bottom of the Inkmann ravine, four months after the battle. It is the only real bit of Art and Nature the War has yet called forth,—and it speaks to us in a more dreadful whisper of the horrors of war than all the peace speeches ever made since we first drew trigger on the Russians. In the foreground is a dead soldier, lying on his face, half covered with some cloth that hides his warped and shrunken flesh. His right hand is still strained out and clutches the grass as when he stretched it out in his delirious agony, hoping it would meet some loved clasp. Now between the thin, bony fingers the sharp, keen crouches squeeze up, longing to spread their golden blossoms to the sun. The copse behind, dark and crowded, seems choked with dead, for hands and legs protrude or are seen through the stems and grass. This is a well-drawn and most powerful study.

Of the engravings we say little, as they nearly all come before us in other forms. The best are Mr. Lynch's painted lithographs, after G. Richmond,—Mr. J. Faed's *Evangeline* (1040), from a picture by T. Faed,—and Mr. T. Landseer's *Children of the Mist* (1046), after Sir E. Landseer,—all these being remarkable for increased breadth and minute finish.

The Architectural Room is this year unusually meagre. There is really hardly anything but neatly-coloured plans of country churches and suburban Tudor villas, with a few lodges, halls, and school-rooms. Of grand invention, novelty, or ambition there is not a trace. As a water-colour drawing Mr. Macquoid's *Clusters at Valladolid* (1057) deserves mention. Mr. Conybeare's *Water-work Tower at Bombay* (1173) seems a tasteful modification of the Indian pointed style to modern purposes. As showing judicious skill, Mr. Bell's *Alterations at Little Dalby Hall* (1150) are interesting. Mr. M. D. Wyatt's *Courts at Sydenham* (1154) form a good epitome of the artistic portion of the Palace. All Mr. Wyatt's designs show knowledge and invention,—a knowledge of the old and a power of creating the new. Mr. Cockerell sends a pleasing study from *Luca della Robbia* (1116),—and Mr. Smirke contributes *Sections of the New Reading-Room at the British Museum* (1115). We should be glad to see the niches, filled up in the plan with statues, left vacant for future greatness. It would then form a sort of Pantheon, which would be a sort of second Westminster Abbey to promote the illustrious to,—and a niche would be an honour to be conferred only on those who many years after death might still be considered great.

REYNOLDS'S SKETCH-BOOKS.

Sir Joshua Reynolds used to regret that he had not enjoyed the advantages of an academical education in his youth, and always felt that he was unable to draw. The difficulties he laboured under are very apparent in three curious little books recently sold at the Rogers sale. Two of them were the sketch-books Reynolds used in

Italy, and contain notes and sketches of some of the most celebrated pictures and works of Art, together with records of dates, places, travelling expenses, and frequent memoranda of colour. They were purchased by Rogers at the sale of the painter's effects, and are now on their way to America, where they can only be valued as having been the actual property of our great painter. Many of the pages, containing merely lead-pencil outlines, display such weak and uncertain drawing as a child would produce rather than the notes of an experienced artist. Where broad shadow occurs the power of Reynolds may be seen. He worked in masses, not lines, and it is curious, where he was confined to the latter, to observe how he proceeded, adding one line upon the other till he arrived at something like his intention. He floundered, and was anything but academic. These peculiarities, however, were a part of the man, and never thoroughly overcome. In studying the individual artist they form an inseparable part of his character, and afford an insight into his mind. By these books we observe what pictures, scenes, and objects he thought most worthy of treasuring in his memory, and therefore it is to be regretted that they have passed so far from us into private hands where they become mere curiosities. For our collectors of Reynolds, and our Government institutions to let the first book, No. 1275, pass away to New York for the sum of 12 guineas seems an almost unaccountable apathy. Are the original sketches of Sir Joshua, the means by which he commenced his works, and the first thoughts of his pictures, so very common? We believe not. He frequently designed and completed his composition on one and the same canvas, so that the masterly brush-strokes at last concealed the wavering pencillings of the beginning. Such weaknesses are not discreditable to Reynolds; and it would be a pity for those who are jealous for his fame to anxiously endeavour to conceal them, since we know that by labour and perseverance these difficulties were at last overcome. He rarely quitted a subject till nothing more was to be desired.

The first Sketch-book is nearly square, bound in thick parchment covers; the pages 180 in number, and 7½ inches high. When sitters came to Reynolds he used to show them *engravings* to select attitudes from, and we do not hear of the painter ever having made such studies of attitudes and groups in the streets and elsewhere as Flaxman was always in the habit of making, and which still exist in his Sketch-books, the property of Miss Denman. In this respect Flaxman industriously observed the precepts of Da Vinci, and to this practice may be ascribed much of that exquisitely beautiful grouping and that pure grace which distinguish his works.

In Reynolds's book, No. 1275, his sojourn at Rome is marked by a sketch of the two lions on the Capitol,—the tortuous columns of the Baldacchino, in St. Peter's,—a sketch of the famous picture by Guercino of the Magdalen, with Angels, in the Vatican,—a colonnade and fountains of the Villa Borghese,—the interior of a Roman columbarium,—the Barberini Faun, since removed to Munich, and the Guido Herodias, with the head of John the Baptist,—a capital study of the head of Heliodorus, in chalk, and evidently done at once from Raphael's fresco. His stay at Florence is indicated by a masterly sketch, in chalk, of Titian's Venus in the Tribune, with the women at the chest in the background. A shaded study of Michael Angelo's statue of the Duke Lorenzo, and several sketches of the famous pictures in the Accademia delle Belle Arti at Venice, done with a Rembrandt-like power of black and white. The first page contains extracts from Lord Shaftesbury. On one page, the summit of a snow mountain and front of an Italian church,—a letter commencing "Dear Brother, I ask your pardon for not having."—Notes of Dates of his journeys from Milan, by "Lions," to Paris,—a curious architectural sketch, drawn, like all the rest of his architectural and ornamental notes, very timidly, inscribed, "On the river Adda, between Bergamo and Milan,"—against the building is written, "Dens of beasts, statues between the windows, Fall of Phaeton, an-

other Europa, Endimion—Galleries." Two portrait heads, with the name "Marchese Lucatello,"—Numerous memoranda of pictures, and pages of precepts, and experiments for colouring, made evidently with the pictures before him or fresh in his mind. These records are the more interesting as the technical processes of his art occupied so much of the painter's attention. He was through life an experimentalist. The second book, No. 1276, without a cover, consists only of eighteen loose leaves, many at the beginning, devoted to accounts, having been cut off. The sketches are very slight, and with no particular interest. The Sketch-book, No. 1277, is of more importance: it is bound, like the other, in parchment. The leaves, thirty-two in number, are 6 inches high, and 6½ inches wide. Many of them are blank, and two half-leaves remain at the ends. On the second page is a list of the places he passed through on his way to Exeter after his return from the Continent.—A sketch of a round tower like Windsor Castle,—a sketch in chalk, of a composition very like Guercino's Hagar at Milan, but evidently a design for the Woman taken in Adultery, from one of Rembrandt's etchings,—a reclining female figure in the front of one of Raphael's compositions, executed by Giulio Romano,—two sketches of an equestrian figure, apparently from Le Brun, in the costume of the day, each a repetition of the other, but the second much larger, a fine outline, in black chalk.—A spirited lead-pencil design, carried across both pages of the book, for a picture of the Ghost of Cæsar appearing to Brutus, with the quotation from Shakspeare in large letters beneath. The mixture in this of the classic costume with the dress of Queen Elizabeth's reign is not a little amusing. Figures occur with the names Le Seur and Le Brun written against them. The initials J. R. are placed by the side of one graceful reclining figure, holding a staff, perhaps his own composition. Much as Reynolds professed to admire Michael Angelo, his extracts are more copiously derived from the French school. His studies of ornamental detail are the French eccentric and examples of the distortions of the Bernini school. The only study recognizable in these books from the works of Michael Angelo is the sitting Lorenzo at Florence. Some of his sketches of females in groups, probably ladies as he saw or remembered having seen them in refined society, are very charming, and became at once designs for pictures. One Rembrandt-like female figure, holding a trumpet, is, no doubt, a study from some fine painting abroad; but a child's head, with the arms and chest lightly indicated, is full of spirit, and must have been hit off at once from nature. In drawing the features, Reynolds could convey the expression of the countenance immediately, and one or two portions of landscape in the first-described book show a feeling for and power to render with a few strokes the leading points that characterize the scene. The writing throughout is clearly that of Reynolds.

Compared with his pictures, these books are but a sorry introduction of Sir Joshua to Brother Jonathan. Where his pictures are, his Sketch-books ought to have been preserved.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Government has commissioned statues of Burke and Curran for St. Stephen's Hall. These statues complete the series of twelve great ornaments of the House of Commons, and continue the theory of taking representatives of popularity and service from both sides of the House. Thus we have, in pairs, Hampden and Falkland, Selden and Clarendon, Somers and Walpole, Pitt and Fox. The price of the new figures is 1,000*l.* each. Mr. Theed is entrusted with the statue of Burke, Mr. Carew with that of Curran. Sir Benjamin Hall, before giving away his 25,000*l.* upon another Wellington abomination, should consider the respect to be gained from scholars and politicians, the credit from artists and lovers of Art, and the sympathy and recognition from the whole public, present and to come, by a man who will endow the nation with another gallery, such as the vestibule of the House of Commons. Without interfering with the scheme already sanctioned by

the House of Commons for a Wellington Monument, Sir Benjamin may give us two such galleries:—one, if he pleases, of distinguished members of the House of Commons—say of Egerton, Raleigh, Eliot, Pym, Vane, Cromwell, Blake, Montague, Sheridan, and Townshend; and another, if he pleases, of poets, historians, and writers—say of Chaucer, Sackville, Spenser, Shakspeare, Bacon, Milton, Fielding, Gibbon, Hume, and Byron. All these could be commissioned and procured for the 20,000*l.* which Sir Benjamin proposes to throw away upon an unnecessary and undesired enlargement of a monument to the Duke.

Two more of the Rogers pictures have been exhibited in the National Gallery since Monday last. Rubens's 'Triumphal Procession of Julius Cæsar,' after Mantegna, and the noble sketch of 'The Horrors of War,' by the same master. The former is hung somewhat low down, under the 'Saint Bavon.' The apartment which contains them will soon deserve to be called the 'Rubens Room.'

The promptitude with which new acquisitions are exhibited to the public deserves recognition. Mr. Rogers's Giotto seems to have been cleaned, i. e. deprived of real dirt, and is now seen to very great advantage, hung over the Botticelli, at the S.W. corner of the end room.

A very useful tablet has been placed on the wall at the entrance of the National Gallery, to the left, near the statue of Wilkie. It exhibits at one view the differences between the English and various foreign measures, affording a standard of importance to those who would comprehend the measures given in catalogues abroad, both ancient and modern. The tablet contains: the English foot and yard, the French mètre, the old French foot, the Roman palm, the Tuscan braccio, and the Rhenish foot.

A picture is being exhibited in Regent Street, under the name of Leonardo da Vinci. Very few visible touches upon it are three hundred years old, and the picture does not belong to the Italian School at all.

On the 12th inst. Mr. George Scharf, jun., gave a lecture at the Architectural Museum, Cannon Row, on Mural Decorations of the twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, and first half of the fifteenth century. He exhibited the compositions of Giotto, and the early Italian masters, comparing their works with the remains of contemporary paintings in England, and showing by extracts from records how extensively Art was patronized by Henry the Third and Edward the First. The sculptures in France and England anticipated the excellencies of the Pisani in Italy, and our glass-painters were renowned even beyond the Alps. The adaptation of designs to architectural space and the complete harmony produced by the entire combination occupied much attention, and the successive changes in costume and ornamental taste were also noticed. The great events—the occupation of Constantinople by the Turks, the spread of the Byzantines over Western Europe, and the diffusion of a taste for Greek Art and the language of Homer, together with the foundation of the Sistine Chapel and its illustrious decorators—formed the concluding points of the discourse.

Late, but not too late, the bold adventurers and discoverers of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries are being remembered in Portugal. A proposal has been started in Lisbon for three monuments to commemorate the great events of Portuguese enterprise. It is proposed to erect a statue to Vasco da Gama, the discoverer of the Cape passage to India, near the Jeronimite Convent; and a statue to Nuno Alves Cabral, the discoverer of Brazil, in Rocio Square. It is also proposed to erect a statue to Camoens, who sang the glories of Portugal in its most glorious period, in Belem Square.

The German journals publish a report, from the pen of Prof. Rosenkranz, of Königsberg, on the intended monument of Kant, the philosopher. We learn by this report that the total expense for the monument is calculated not to exceed 10,000 thalers. Of this sum 6,000 thalers are collected already, the King of Prussia and the magistrate of Königsberg being among the principal donors. The plaster model of the statue has been completed by Rauch, the sculptor, and will be sent in a few

days from Berlin to Silesia, where the casting is to take place.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL UNION.—TUESDAY, May 27, Willis's Rooms, Half-past Three.—Quartet in A, No. 5, Beethoven: Prelude, Sarabande, Bourrée, and Gigue; Piano, Solos, S. Bach; Quartet, E minor, Op. 41, Mendelssohn; Grand Septet, D minor, Hummel. Executants: Ernst, Cooper, Hill, Platt, Howell, Rémusat, Barrett, and Harper. Pianist, Halle. Tickets, Half-a-Guinea each, to be had of Gramer & Co., Chappell & Ollivier.

Madame Schumann will play at the Sixth Matinée, June 10.

J. ELLA, Director.

ORCHESTRAL UNION, Hanover Square Rooms.—The GRAND CONCERT of the Season will take place on THURSDAY MORNING, June 5, Vocalist, Mdlle. Jennie Bauer. Solo Performers: Miss Arabella Goddard and M. Sainton. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Mdlle. PICCOLLOMINI.—GRAND EXTRA NIGHT, WEDNESDAY, May 28, a combination of attractions, including the new Opera LA TRAVIATA. Vocalist, Mdlle. Piccolomini.

On THURSDAY, May 29, there will be no performance. On FRIDAY, May 30, a GRAND EXTRA NIGHT, with a variety of Entertainments in Opera and Ballet. Applications for Boxes and Stalls to be made at the Box-office of the Theatre, Colonnade, Haymarket.

Miss MESSENT and Mr. BRINLEY RICHARDS' CONCERT will take place on FRIDAY, May 31, at the Hanover Square Rooms, St. James's. They will be assisted by the following eminent Artists: Madame Clara Novello, Miss Mescent, and Miss Dolby; Herr Von der Osten from Leipzig, Mr. Elliot Galer, Mr. Rodda, and Mr. Weiss, Signor Platt, Molière, Hoffie, and Mr. Brinley Richards, who will play a selection from Mozart's works and some of his own new compositions for the Pianoforte. Miss Mescent and Mr. Weiss will sing a new Duett composed for them by Mr. Brinley Richards. Conductors: Messrs. Benedict, F. Mori, and Ganz.—Reserved Seats, 1*l.* 6*d.*; Single Tickets, 7*s.*; at Miss Mescent's, 6, Manchester Street; and of Mr. Brinley Richards, 4, Torrington Street, Russell Square.

Signor GIULIO REGONDI begs to announce that his ANNUAL MUSIC CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on FRIDAY, May 30, commencing at 2 o'clock, precisely. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Miss Stabach, Mdlle. Federica Rainaldi, Miss Lascelles, Madame Viardot Garcia, and the Gentlemen of the Orpheus Club Union. Instrumentalists: Pianoforte, Herr Tedesco; Harp, Herr Oberthur; Violoncello, Herr Lidet; Guitar and Concertina, Signor Giulio Regondi. Conductor, Signor La Calab.—Reserved Seats, Half-a-Guinea; 1*l.* 6*d.* each; to be had of Signor Giulio Regondi, 24, Upper George Street, Bryanston Square. Tickets, 7*s.* each, to be had of the principal Musicellers.

Herr BERNHARD MOLIQUE begs to announce that he will give, under the most distinguished Patronage, a MORNING CONCERT at the Hanover Square Rooms, on MONDAY, June 2, at 3 o'clock.—Tickets, Half-a-Guinea; Reserved Seats, 1*l.* 6*d.* each; to be had of Herr Molique, 9, Houghton Place, Amptill Square; and at the principal Musicellers.

WILLIS'S ROOMS, King Street, St. James's.—Under the immediate Patronage of his Serene Highness PRINCE EDWARD OF SAXE-WEIMAR.—Herr NABICH begs to announce that his MORNING CONCERT will take place at the above Rooms on the 7th of June, when he will be assisted by the most eminent Artists. To commence at half-past 2 o'clock.—Tickets, 1*l.* 6*d.* each; to be had at all the principal Musicellers; and of Mr. N., No. 74, Newman Street, Oxford Street.

Herr LEO KERBUSH'S MATINEE MUSICALE will take place at the Beethoven Rooms, 27, Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square, on SATURDAY, June 1, when the following eminent Artists will appear:—Vocalists: Mdlle. Emilie Krail and Herr von der Osten. Instrumentalists: Mdlle. Beierich, Mr. Aguilar, Mous, Paus, and Herr Leo Kerbusch.—Tickets may be obtained at Messrs. Wessell & Co.'s, 229, Regent Street.

Mr. AGUILAR begs to announce that his ANNUAL CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on THURSDAY MORNING, June 19. Vocalists: Madame Viardot Garcia, Mdlle. Emilie Krail, Mdlle. Beyer Zerr, and Herr Reichardt. Instrumentalists: Hermentals: Ernst, Mr. Webb, Herr Hausman, Mr. Lazarus, and Mr. Aguilar. Conductors: Herr Hausman and Mr. Aguilar. Pieces will be performed, for the first time in public, Mr. Aguilar's New Trio for Pianoforte, Violin, and Violoncello.—Tickets, 1*l.* 6*d.* 7*s.*, to be had of the principal Music Publishers, and of Mr. Aguilar, 151, Albany Street, Regent's Park.

MADAME JENNY GOLDSCHMIDT-LIND. FAREWELL CONCERTS, EXETER HALL. Mr. MITCHELL respectfully announces the LAST CONCERTS which will be given by Madame GOLDSCHMIDT in this country: WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 11, Grand MISCELLANEOUS CONCERT, with full Band and Chorus; WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 15, Haydn's Oratorio, THE CREATION; and MONDAY EVENING, June 30, Grand MISCELLANEOUS CONCERT, with full Band and Chorus, on which occasion Madame Goldschmidt will make her Last and Farewell Appearance in this country.

Reserved and Numbered Seats, One Guinea; Unreserved Seats (back of Room, 1*l.* 6*d.*; Area under West Gallery), 7*s.* No more Tickets will be issued than can be conveniently accommodated. Applications for Tickets received by Mr. Mitchell, Royal Library, 35, Old Bond Street.

CRYSTAL-PALACE CONCERTS.—Contrary to expectation, the first of these performances—held yesterday week—was not merely gay as a show, but also remarkable in point of musical success. It would be difficult to outdo the brilliancy of the scene. Then, those who are averse to crowds had leave and room to ramble beyond the verge of the seated audience, into the Moresco or Mediaeval Courts, feasting the eyes with all manner of rich colours, and refreshing shadows, while the ear could still take its pleasure. The musical effectiveness of the entertainment, we repeat, surprised us. By a judicious arrangement of a sort of hood or canopy in front of the orchestra, the tones of the full band were collected and thrown forward to the furthest re-

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quired distance without confusion:—the sounds of the single voices, too, be they even as delicate, as Madame Bosio's, if not "by distance made more sweet," were not by "distance made more small." Thirdly, the *programme*, naturally composed of the most popular pieces in the opera repertory, was sufficient, yet not surfeiting. In short, orchestra, chorus, and principal singers were, one and all, heard to their utmost advantage; and the Directors of the Glass Palace who were somewhat languishing "in need of a feature," and the management of the Royal Italian Opera, driven to imagine expedients for keeping together the forces of that theatre, may congratulate each other,—and we, as reporters, may felicitate the public,—on the happy result of an experiment, the issue of which was not to be foreseen, so many and strange were the conditions involved in the trial.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—The past seven days have been busy ones, though they have made up what may be called an "off week." The most omnivorous of readers will thank us for sparing him the "twenty-times-told tale," and for merely touching on a few new points and persons in detail.

Madame Puzzi gave another—we think her third—concert on Monday, with the aim, apparently, of introducing several of the newly-arrived Italian artists. Among these were Signor Monari, the proprietor of a vigorous and sweet baritone voice, of *basso* rather than baritone quality, and a fair amount of musical feeling;—Signora Rizzi, of Her Majesty's Theatre, who proves, in a concert-room, to possess a tuneable *mezzo-soprano* voice, without bad habits;—Signor Stanzieri, who seems to us a superior accompanist;—Signori Sighicelli, Braga, and Andreoli. The violin playing of the first of these gentlemen, in a *solo* by M. Dancla, pleased us much. His intonation is good, his tone pure if not strong, and apparently clear of that vibratory affectation, which was Paganini's worst legacy to his imitators during half a century: he has neat execution, and phrases like a musician. It will surprise us if Signor Sighicelli fail to turn out a real acquisition to the rank of violin-players.

—We must speak with more hesitation of Signor Braga, the violoncellist,—since, though his execution is dashing and voluble, his taste did not please us; and his tone seemed to want the geniality and charm which are required to make a tone so feeble as his acceptable. Nothing could be poorer than the *fantasia* on themes from 'Norma,' which he adventured. In better music we hope to be able to like him better.—Signor Andreoli impressed us most favourably, as one who has entire mastery over the keyboard of the pianoforte:—almost the one player we recollect who has been able to reconcile us to M. Thalberg's music when not played by its composer. This gentleman has a crispness, roundness, and equality of touch, which remind us of the hand of Mendelssohn: he does not thump, yet puts forth sufficient power; and in his delicate passages struck us as singularly graceful. In M. Thalberg's *fantasia* from 'L'Elisir,'—but for a slight occasional holding back of the *tempo*, more than M. Thalberg indulges in himself,—he left little to wish, and on being recalled, enacted a wonder with his left hand, on the "Or che in cielo," from 'Marino Faliero,' which, though little worth as music, spoke volumes for his executive perfection. Signor Andreoli's reception was deservedly enthusiastic.—Being bound to speak principally of novelties, we can only further note a pretty butterfly *Romance*, with a fluttering accompaniment, written by Herr Blumenthal for Herr Reichardt;—advert to the re-appearance of that excellent French singer, M. Jules Lefort;—and add, lastly, that to make up for the non-appearance of M. Marras, there dropped from the skies (for his coming was totally unexpected) Herr Pischek. He was in his best German voice, and sang a jolly soldier's song with so much *verve* and vigour, as to assure the ditty—though it be little more solid as music than the well-worn 'Cram-bambuli'—a popularity as extensive as belonged to Herr Speyer's *Rhein-lied*, which, we trust, it has replaced in Herr Pischek's repertory.

On Monday evening Mr. Bodda gave a monster concert at Exeter Hall;—and at the *Amateur*

Concert, among the "professional music," figured handsomely Mr. S. Waley's pianoforte *Concerto*, again performed by himself; and a song by Miss Gabriel, sung by Signor Monari.

On Wednesday evening Signor Rossini's 'Stabat' and Mendelssohn's 'Lobgesang' were performed at St. Martin's Hall, under Mr. Hullah's direction. Another of the events of our musical Spring happened, too, on the same evening. This was the Concert of M. Benedict. The giver seems this year wisely bent on surprising those who have been used to carry home to Germany the bill of his Concert, as a curiosity, which, although it was printed, nobody there was expected to accept as a reality. M. Benedict this time merely gave a first-rate artistic entertainment, containing a reasonable number of pieces, by the best masters, supported by a few first-rate artists. Mesdames Lind and Viardot, Herren Ernst and Goldschmidt, Signor Belletti, Herren Rotikansky and Reichardt assisted him, in place of the six-and-thirty singers and players of former years. This change for the better cannot be too heartily commended,—even though it does deprive foreign visitors (especially those not invited to sing or play) of their annual excuse for laughing at the musical appetite of English persons of quality. The most attractive item in M. Benedict's *programme* was M. Meyerbeer's 'Mère Grande' sung by the two Ladies;—the novelty was the introduction to his MS. opera, 'The Minnesinger.' The overture we already know to be one of the most graceful and effective of modern overtures. Of its sequel we must speak on another occasion.

A meeting of the *Réunion des Arts*, at which Madame Mattmann, yet another new pianiste, was to appear,—the second of M. Halle's choice *Recitals*,—and a Concert given by Mr. Henry Leslie's *Madrigal Choir* (a *corps*, the performances of which do its drill sergeant no ordinary credit) can merely be enumerated as among other entertainments of the week.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—"Personal size and mental sorrow," remarks Miss Austen in 'Persuasion,' "have certainly no necessary proportions." A bulky figure has as good a right to be in deep affliction as the most graceful set of limbs in the world. But, fair or not fair, there are unbecoming conjunctions which reason will patronize in vain, which taste cannot tolerate, which ridicule will seize." We have no fear of being accused of personality if we point out that there are limits which Nature will have respected in Art. When Signor Lablache personated the starved prisoner in 'I Masnadieri' how was it possible to remain blind to the discrepancy betwixt the actor and his occupation? Were Mr. Buckstone to appear as *Romeo* he would draw few tears, we are afraid. That actress, was among actresses a positive *Queen of Sheba* for subtlety, who, on being asked to play 'The Grecian Daughter,' replied, "Yes, if you will give me a Grecian profile." Dramatic genius can do much to add cubits to the stature of the pigmy, to reduce the volume of a *Glumdalclitch*,—but Madame Alboni has small dramatic genius; and accomplished though she be as a vocalist, if she will attempt 'La Sonnambula' the flagrant unfitness of such attempt on her part renders silence on ours alike a dis-service to the Lady and an abuse of public good faith. Her performance, then, besides being singular to see, was dramatically null, and only partially effective as a piece of singing. Madame Alboni was frequently out of tune,—at the beginning of the evening her voice betrayed her more than once. In her *sortita* and final *rondo* the pleasure which her executive brilliancy must otherwise have given us was impaired by the diversity of weight and quality of her notes,—no two *roulades* being executed in the same register,—no passage being taken without a mixture of thick and thin destructive of that flow and serenity which the music of Bellini's village opera demands. To be just, the same reproach applies, in some degree, to the performance of the Garcia sisters in the same part,—but with them the vocal artifices employed were (and are) harmonized by the dramatic skill and inspiration, which disguise the patchiness of the materials

by clearness of design and colour in the general conception. Madame Alboni's *Sonnambula*, however, was received as enthusiastically as Mdle. Lind's was on the same stage, and our record of this may be set against our cavil. Signor Calzolari's *Elvino* is bad,—the music does not suit him, and his voice was out of order on Tuesday. Signor Beneventano's *Rodolpho* was better. The orchestra and chorus were coarse, feeble, and defective. A *cavatina*, we know not by whom, introduced in the second act, by Mdle. Rizzi was so pretty as to deserve its *encore*:—the young Lady, as we have said elsewhere, has an agreeable voice, and with time and pains may become a good singer.—Signor Salviani, the new tenor, was tried on Thursday evening,—Herr Reichardt is engaged as another tenor.—Mdle. Piccolomini has arrived, and is to appear this evening in 'La Traviata.'

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—The run of 'Rigoletto,' which was interrupted last year by the non-arrival of Signor Ronconi, was resumed under favourable auspices at the *Lyceum* on Thursday,—and the opera bids fair to prove one of the court cards of Mr. Gye's provisional season. We have not heard Signor Mario to such advantage for three years as the night before last, using his voice without misgiving or management. Madame Bosio is always the most acceptable in those parts where she is not to be compared with any predecessor; and Signor Ronconi, though not in his best voice on Thursday, cannot be replaced in characters such as that of the Jester. The orchestra and chorus are irreproachable,—the opera is put on the stage superbly and with taste,—the public, more's the pity, likes the shocking story of the opera,—the Quartet in the fourth act is Signor Verdi's most attractive inspiration of the kind:—for all which reasons we fancy 'Rigoletto'—poor though the opera be—may draw as well as run during the present season.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—"Let me once again," says a Correspondent, "though not, I fear, for the last time, call attention to the new applications for Parliamentary grants talked of by those who are interested in Painting, as something unfair, if not ungenerous, Music still wanders about a mere fiction among the Arts, without shelter or recognition or a penny in her pocket! Every one who frequents the new reading-room at the British Museum will have good cause to rejoice if the five thousand pound vote proposed shall provide them with a fine *fresco* roof to their magnificent dome; but if we are advanced in England to such a point of liberal sympathy with Painting that we can expend as much as this in decoration of a library, is not the time come when the claims of Music should be heard and weighed, or, at least, talked about?"

The Opera at Sadler's Wells opened on Monday evening with Mr. Balfe's 'Bohemian Girl,' refreshed by the addition of some new musical pieces, and conducted by the composer. The company is strong, including among those whom we have already mentioned, Miss Poole; and the performances are universally agreed to be entirely successful.—We observe that the new opera coming at Drury Lane is to be a version in English of the 'Esmeralda' of Signor Battista, an Italian composer new to England.

A new *Glee and Madrigal Association* is announced, the old one having somewhat unaccountably "sunk in the ground." The *soprano* is to be Miss Moss, a young Lady new to London,—the *bass*, Mr. Thomas.

The pompous promises of the
—silver sty
With a door of ivory—

in the ballad—the grotesque magnificence of which so delighted us when we were children—and the yet more costly exaggerations lavished by Hood on his 'Miss Kilman-egge' bid fair to be realized and outdone by the caterers for the sumptuous tastes of musical amateurism. Can anything sound much more superb than "a flute of gold, just completed for a gentleman in Australia," which we were the other day invited to see, by Messrs.

Rudall and Rose? The combination is curious; yet we are assured that the choice of material was not decided by any of those caprices of taste or want of taste which have distinguished the dwellers in the new *Eldorado*, but has been naturally arrived at in the process of improving the manufacture. Box-wood, cocoa-wood, ivory, glass, have been successively tried;—then came silver,—and certain it is that (allowing for associations, which there is no possibility of putting out of court in the comparison) the tone of the golden flute is worthier than that of the less precious one,—having a certain superior richness, roundness, and sonority, representing the difference in cost, and thus claiming the attention of all royally rich persons who adopt Minerva's instrument.

After this notice of a piece of luxury—the parallel to which hardly exists, perhaps, except it be that Escorial organ the pipes of which are silver—let us pass to the other extremity of the musical scale. If there be any filings from this flute of gold at the disposal of Australian or English lovers of music and of old memories, we are assured that they could hardly fall better than on the son of Incedon, for whom we perceive a few artists, Mr. Webster, Mr. Buckstone, and Mr. Addison, the well-known publisher, at their head, are endeavouring to gather some assistance.

For the excitement and delectation of the provinces, we perceive that M. Jullien has added to his band half-a-dozen Zouave trumpeters. The name and the dress are the thing, since the "calls" of these dashing allies of ours have, we imagine, little more musical range or variety than "the cuckoo's note."—Naturally enough, the idea of masked balls associates itself with M. Jullien. Proprietors, after the fate of Covent Garden, seem moving prohibitions against this entertainment, since it was decided the other day at Drury Lane that no meeting of the kind should again be held in that theatre.—It is now positively asserted in musical circles that the plan of *St. James's Hall*, the new concert-rooms, close to Piccadilly, is to be put into execution forthwith.

It is now said that a new opera, by M. Duprez, on the subject of 'Samson,'—the music of which has been performed more than once in private with success,—will be given at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris at no very distant period.—Signor Biletta's 'Rosa de Florence' is announced as positively about to come out towards the end of the month, after having received only one hundred and fifty rehearsals or thereabouts.

M. Ponsard's new comedy in verse, 'La Bourse,' in regard to which expectation has been raised high for many months past, was produced the other evening at the *Théâtre de l'Odéon*. M. Janin assures us, in his *feuilleton*, that all possible expectation is fulfilled by the excellence of the comedy now it has come: nevertheless, we cannot but fancy that there is a touch of the anxious and the defensive in his raptures,—especially since, towards the close of the article, we find pointed out the strong family likeness existing betwixt this new play and M. Ponsard's foregoing one, his 'L'Honneur et l'Argent.' The popularity of that work, the taste of our neighbours considered, and considering its literary and political merit, is a matter worth studying by those who are not content with skin-deep definitions or angry philippics. More curious still will it be if a second draught from the same fountain satisfy a public so long habituated in Drama to the most highly-savoured meats, served up with the sharpest of condiments.

Madame Ristori's first appearance in England is announced for Wednesday, the 4th of June,—the play to be the 'Medea' of M. Legouvé, translated into Italian by Signor Montanelli.

MISCELLANEA

The Island of Anticosti.—A recent number of the 'Transactions of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec' contains a highly interesting paper, by Mr. A. R. Roche, 'On the Resources and Capabilities of the Island of Anticosti,' which will, when it becomes known, undoubtedly have

the effect of causing that island to be regarded in a very different light to that in which it is generally exhibited. Various circumstances have hitherto combined to repel inquiry and enterprise from Anticosti. Thus, the sailor has been taught to regard his approach to its shores with intense dread, as they have always been described as presenting the greatest dangers to him when afloat, and as affording no sustenance to him if cast upon them. But, as Mr. Roche observes, those who have drawn conclusions unfavourable to the island from the number of wrecks which are stated to have taken place upon it, do not consider that those which appear formidable in the aggregate under the head of Anticosti, have not occurred at one spot, but at many widely separated points, extending over a distance of 320 miles; that being the circumference of the island without taking into account the indentations caused by bays, creeks, &c. Mr. Roche, who visited a large portion of the island during the past year, states that it contains nearly two millions of acres, being upwards of one-fourth larger than Prince Edward's Island, which is an independent province. The first Seigneur (to whom it was granted in 1680 for services rendered to the crown of France) used to reside every summer upon the island. The rivers, which are very numerous, have high banks, with very beautiful falls, and excellent mill sites. The fisheries are most productive. Mr. Corbet, who leases them, but who keeps up a very small establishment, and, consequently, makes use of his privilege to a very slight extent, says: "I have frequently, accompanied by two Indians, taken in the month of July, in one day, twelve hundred salmon trout, and upwards of two hundred salmon out of Observation River; the majority of the salmon trout weighing 4 lb., and the salmon from 12 lb. to 15 lb." Though all the rivers of Anticosti abound with the finest salmon, few of them are fished to any extent, but as the markets for fish in the United States are now thrown open to Canada by the Reciprocity Treaty, it is probable that advantage will be taken of the enormous supply of fish in this island. Nor is this confined to the rivers. Mr. Roche declares that the sea around the island teems with many varieties of fish, and that seals are extremely numerous. The hunting is represented as being of great value, though of less importance than the fisheries. The animals consist of bears, martens, otters, and the silver-grey, red, black, and white fox, all of which are very numerous. The skins of the silver-grey and black fox realize at Quebec from 15*l.* to 20*l.* each. Great quantities of ducks, geese, partridges, and other fowl, resort to the lakes upon the island, and it is believed that the elder-duck may be made a profitable export. Of the interior of Anticosti Mr. Corbet, who has seen more of the island than any other person, states that he believes the land could be made to yield every description of farm produce. Rearing of cattle and sheep at Anticosti for the supply of those engaged in the fisheries, of shipping, and of Quebec, would prove very remunerative. While the natural grasses are as rich as any upon the American Continent, it appears that cattle can be left out to graze there longer than at Quebec. Resting upon a substratum of limestone, the soil of Anticosti should be warm, and if cleared to any extent, and thereby exposed to the sun, and drained, it would no doubt become highly productive. The island on the south side generally rises from about twenty to sixty feet above the beach, and is nearly level to the centre, where a range of moderate sized hills appears to run its entire length, and upon the north side to terminate in steep cliffs. It is mostly covered with a thick forest of spruce, fir, red and white birch, ash, quantities of very fine tamarack, and, upon the north side of the island, large pine. Scattered through the forests are many fine natural meadows, like those recently discovered in Minnesota in the far West, which produce rich grasses five and six feet high. Such are a few of the leading features embraced in Mr. Roche's interesting paper. The agricultural and animal wealth of Anticosti are now for the first time made known, and the recent explorations of Sir W. Logan show that the mineral resources of the island are very great.

In concluding his communication, Mr. Roche observes: "As Anticosti belongs to a number of persons, some residing in Canada, and others in England, who are not likely to combine in any comprehensive plan for developing its resources, but who would, no doubt, be prepared to dispose of their interest in it at a reasonable price, it is to be desired, that either the Government, or some public company in Canada or England, should purchase the island, and fit it for systematic colonization, which would be found a highly profitable investment of capital."

Country Epitaphs.—A Correspondent writes:—"I venture to call attention to an epitaph in Tongue Church, Shropshire, ascribed in positive terms to Shakespeare, by Sir William Dugdale in his *Visitation Book*. It is on Sir Thomas Stanley, who died about 1600.—

Not monumental stone preserves our fame,
Nor sky-aspiring pyramids our name.
The memory of him for whom this stands
Shall outlive marble and defacers' hands.
When all to time's consumption shall be given,
Stanley, for whom this stands, shall stand in heaven.

There are many curious points of resemblance between this epitaph and the one in last Saturday's *Athenæum*.—I am, &c. B. L."

Champagne.—There are few more mendacious labels than those on champagne flasks. The celebrated Sillery Mousseux has hitherto been a pleasant myth, as not a single vineyard exists at Sillery. In order, however, to give some grounds for this appellation, M. Jacquesson, of Châlons-sur-Marne, has purchased the celebrated Sillery estate, and purposes converting it into vineyards. In order to insure success, he intends to shelter the young vines by means of straw mats. Dr. Clarke, in a note to his *Travels*, stated that the common champagne drunk in this country was "made with green grapes and sugar; and that the imitation of it, with green gooseberries and sugar," was "fall as salutary, and frequently as palatable." This statement being questioned by the French translator of the Doctor's *Travels*, the Doctor replied:—"It so happens that the author's information does not at all depend upon any conjectures he may have formed; it is the result of inquiries which he made upon the spot, and of positive information relative to the chemical constituents 'des vins d'Ai et d'Epernai,' from Messrs. Moett and Company, the principal persons concerned in their fabrication. It was in the town of Epernai, whither the author repaired for information upon this subject, that in answer to some written questions proposed to Mons. Moett, the following statement was given by that gentleman touching the admission of sugar into the composition of their wine. * * * Il est très vrai que dans les années froides ou pluvieuses, le raisin n'ayant pas acquis assez de maturité, ou ayant été privé de la chaleur du soleil, les vins n'ont plus cette liqueur douce et aimable qui les caractérise: dans ce cas quelques propriétaires y ont suppléé par l'introduction dans leur vin d'une liqueur très éclairée, dont la base est nécessairement du sucre; sa fabrication est un secret; cette liqueur mêlée en très petites quantités aux vins verts, corrige le vice de l'année, et leur donne absolument la même douceur que celle que procure le soleil dans les années chaudes. Il s'est élevé en Champagne même des fréquentes querelles entre des connaisseurs qui prétendent pouvoir distinguer au goût la liqueur artificielle de celle qui est naturelle; mais c'est une chimère. Le sucre produit dans le raisin, comme dans toute espèce de fruit par le travail de la nature, est toujours du sucre, comme celui que l'art pourrait y introduire, lorsque l'intempérance des saisons les en a privé. Nous nous sommes plus très souvent à mettre en défaut l'expérience de ces prétendus connaisseurs; et il est si rare de les voir rencontrer juste, que l'on peut croire que c'est le hasard plus que leur goût qui les a guidés."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—T. P.—N.—E. G. R.—B.—L. V. II.—C.—H.—L. S. C.—C. M. C.—T. F.—E. H.—C. F. T.—N. L.—H. D.—T. W. B.—C. A. B.—received.

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ALFRED T. JAY, Manager.

FAMILY ENDOWMENT, LIFE ASSURANCE and ANNUITY SOCIETY, 12, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, London. Established 1835.
CAPITAL £500,000.

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 THE EXTENSIVE ASSURANCE BUSINESS OF THE AGRA and UNITED SERVICE BANK HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THIS OFFICE, AND THE SOCIETY HAS BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS OR AGENCIES AT CALCUTTA, MADRAS, BOMBAY, AND AGRA.
JOHN CAZENOVE, Secretary.

ESTABLISHED 1841.
MEDICAL, INVALID, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

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 Superintendent: W. P. Ferguson, Esq. (late Secretary to The New Oriental Life Office).
 Secretaries: J. M. Tait, Esq. Calcutta.
 P. T. MacLagan, Esq. Madras.

By the Annual Report for 1893, it appeared that the number of Policies then in force was 3,434, insuring 1,387,900l., and yielding an Income of 55,267l.

At the Fourteenth Annual Meeting, held on the 29th of November, 1895, it was shown that on the 29th of June last:—

The number of Policies in force was 5,356
 The Amount Insured was 2,586,902l. 8s. 2d.
 The Annual Income was 108,711l. 18s. 11d.

Two Bonuses have been declared (in 1848 and 1853), adding nearly two per cent. per annum on the average to sums assured, and by which a Policy of 1,000l. issued in 1848 on a healthy life is now increased to 1,260l.

Assurances are effected at home or abroad on healthy lives at as moderate rates as the most recent data will allow.

Premiums for India have been computed on the actual results of European Life in that Colony extending over the whole period of the East India Company's experience, and will be found generally lower than those of any other Company, and especially favourable to military men.

Civil rates charged on the lives of military officers holding civil appointments, for the term of such appointments.

Immediate reduction to English rates on the assured returning to Europe permanently to reside; or one year after arrival, if residence not permanent.

Policies may be made payable either in London, or in India, at the rate of Two Shillings sterling for every 100l. of sum assured.

Persons assured with the Society through the Indian Branch have permission to proceed to and reside in any part of Asia.

There is no charge for Government Policy, or Medical Fees, nor any expense whatever beyond the premium in obtaining policies.

The amalgamation of the extensive business and connexion of THE NEW ORIENTAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY with this Society has confirmed the leading position taken by this Office, and the amount of new business done proves that the reasonable rates charged are fully appreciated.

Prospectuses, Forms of Proposals, and every other information may be obtained on application to any of the Society's Agents, or of **C. DOUGLAS SINGER, Secretary, 35, Pall Mall.**

LONDON LIFE ASSOCIATION, 81, KING WILLIAM-STREET.
 The Directors of this Association hereby inform the Members that the PREMIUMS falling due on the 1st of July next of those Members who have been assured for seven or more entire years, will be REDUCED at the rate of 74 per cent., leaving 26 per cent. only to be paid.
EDWARD DOCKER, Sec.

THE ENGLISH and IRISH CHURCH and UNIVERSITY ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

London Offices—4, Trafalgar-square, Charing Cross.
London Agency Offices—90, High-street.
Liverpool Agency Offices—2, Chapel-street.
Dublin Branch Office—111, Grafton-street.
 Every description of Assurance and Annuity is entertained that may be dependent upon the existence of one, two, or three lives.
 A diminution of half-a-year is made on the amount of premium when persons assure within six months of their last Birthday.
 Provisions for old age and Annuities may be purchased at rates for some ages considerably lower than those of most other Assurance Companies.
 A special table has been calculated for this Office, whereby interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum is allowed.
 Policy-holders upon all Premiums paid by them until death.
 Forms of Proposals and every information may be obtained on application to the Head Office, or any of the Society's Agents.
JOHN EDMUND COX, M.A. F.S.A., Chairman.
JAMES GEAVER HOUTON, Secretary.

MR. HOWARD, SURGEON-DENTIST, 52, FLEET-STREET, has introduced an ENTIRELY NEW DESCRIPTION of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. These perfectly resemble the natural teeth as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer; they will never change colour or decay, and will be found superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, and will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. Decayed teeth rendered sound and useful in mastication.—At home from Ten till Five.

F. DENT, 61, STRAND, and 34 and 35, RYAL EXCHANGE, Chronometer, Watch, and Clock Maker, by appointment to the Queen and Prince Albert, Successor to the late E. J. Dent in all his patent rights and business at the above shops, and at the Clock and Compass Factory at Somerset Wharf, Maker of Chronometers, Watches, Astronomical, Turret, and other Clocks, Diploscopes, and Patent Ships Compasses, used on board Her Majesty's Yacht. Ladies' Gold Watches, 8 guineas, 10 guineas, 12 guineas, 14 guineas, 16 guineas, 18 guineas, 20 guineas, 22 guineas, 24 guineas, 26 guineas, 28 guineas, 30 guineas, 32 guineas, 34 guineas, 36 guineas, 38 guineas, 40 guineas, 42 guineas, 44 guineas, 46 guineas, 48 guineas, 50 guineas, 52 guineas, 54 guineas, 56 guineas, 58 guineas, 60 guineas, 62 guineas, 64 guineas, 66 guineas, 68 guineas, 70 guineas, 72 guineas, 74 guineas, 76 guineas, 78 guineas, 80 guineas, 82 guineas, 84 guineas, 86 guineas, 88 guineas, 90 guineas, 92 guineas, 94 guineas, 96 guineas, 98 guineas, 100 guineas, 102 guineas, 104 guineas, 106 guineas, 108 guineas, 110 guineas, 112 guineas, 114 guineas, 116 guineas, 118 guineas, 120 guineas, 122 guineas, 124 guineas, 126 guineas, 128 guineas, 130 guineas, 132 guineas, 134 guineas, 136 guineas, 138 guineas, 140 guineas, 142 guineas, 144 guineas, 146 guineas, 148 guineas, 150 guineas, 152 guineas, 154 guineas, 156 guineas, 158 guineas, 160 guineas, 162 guineas, 164 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WILLIAM S. BURTON has SIX LARGE SHOW-ROOMS devoted exclusively to the SEPARATE DISPLAY of Lamps, Baths, and Metallic Bedsteads. The stock of each is at once the largest, newest, and most varied ever submitted to the public, and marked at prices proportionate to those that have had to make his establishment the most distinguished in this country. The same prices charged at all the establishments.

Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d. to £12 0s. each.

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The alterations and additions to these extensive premises (already by far the largest in Europe), which occupied the whole of last year, are of such a character that the new EIGHT HOUSES is devoted to the display of the most magnificent stock of GENERAL HOUSE IRONMONGERY (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated Goods, Baths, Brushes and Furnery, Lamps and Gasaliers, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, and Bedding), so arranged in Sixteen Large Show Rooms as to afford to parties furnishing facilities in the selection of goods that cannot be hoped for elsewhere.

Illustrated Catalogues sent (per post) free.

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WHITE'S MOC-MAN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of HERNIA. The use of a steel spring, so often hurtful in its effects, is here avoided; a soft bandage being worn, which, while it supports the protruding power is supplied by the MOC-MAN PAD and PATENT LEVER fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to be forwarded by post on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer, Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

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FOR VARIOUS VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light and elastic, being woven with the finest and most durable stocking. Price, from 7s. 6d. to 10s. each; postage 6d.

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SHARPE'S RAGLAN KNIFE AND FORK.

This approved Model, designed for the use of one HAND only, may now be had at the Foulness-street, London. As also his LUNATIC KNIFE, for the use of Insane Patients, patented by the first Asylums in the country.

DURABILITY OF GUTTA PERCHA

TUBING.—Many inquiries have been made as to the Durability of Gutta Percha Tubing, the Gutta Percha Company have pleasure in giving publicity to the following letter:—FROM SIR RAYMOND ARVIE, Bart., VENTNOR, ISLE OF WIGHT.—"Second Testimonial."—March 10th, 1856.—In reply to your letter, received this morning, respecting the Gutta Percha Tubing for Pump Service, I can state, with much satisfaction, it answers perfectly. Many Builders, and other persons, have lately examined it, and there is not the least apparent difference since the first laying down, now several years, and I am informed that it is to be adopted generally in the houses that are being erected here."

N.B.—From this Testimonial it will be seen that the CORROSION WATER OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT has no effect on Gutta Percha Tubing.

THE GUTTA PERCHA COMPANY, PATENTEES,

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